PRESS RELEASES

Oct 10, 2000

Ecolab to Offer Webcast of Third Quarter Investor Conference Call

ST. PAUL, Minn., October 10, 2000 - Ecolab will host a live webcast of its third quarter investor conference call. A press release containing third quarter results is expected to be issued before the market opens on October 19th.
Details for the webcast are as follows:

TIME: 1:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time

DATE: Thursday, October 19, 2000

DURATION: One hour

LOCATION: http://www.ecolab.com/financial_investor

ARCHIVE: A replay of the webcast will be available at that site through October 27.

To access the webcast, go to the Investor Information portion of the Company's Web site at http://www.ecolab.com/financial_investor, on the day of the conference call and click on the webcast icon. Listening to the webcast requires a soundcard and the RealPlayer G2 streaming media player. If you do not have a RealPlayer G2 installed on your PC, you may download the free version at http://www.real.com.

Ecolab is the leading global developer and marketer of premium cleaning, sanitizing, pest elimination, maintenance and repair products and services for the hospitality, institutional, food and beverage and industrial markets. For the year ended December 31, 1999, Ecolab reported sales of $2.1 billion; including European joint venture sales of $0.9 billion, Ecolab's global sales coverage was $3 billion. Ecolab shares are traded on the New York Stock Exchange and the Pacific Exchange under the symbol ECL.

Ecolab news releases and other investor information are available on the Internet at www.ecolab.com and by telephone at 1-800-FACT-ECL.

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