PRESS RELEASES

May 10, 2002

Ecolab Declares Regular Dividend

ST. PAUL, Minn., May 10, 2002 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- The Board of Directors of Ecolab Inc. today declared a regular quarterly cash dividend of $0.135 per common share, to be paid July 15, 2002 to share holders of record at the close of business on June 18, 2002.

Ecolab has paid cash dividends on its common stock for 65 consecutive years.

With worldwide sales exceeding $3 billion, Ecolab is the leading global developer and marketer of premium cleaning, sanitizing, pest elimination, maintenance and repair products and services for the hospitality, institutional and industrial markets.

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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Back to Press Releases