PRESS RELEASES

Aug 16, 2002

Ecolab Declares Regular Dividend

ST. PAUL, Minn., Aug 16, 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 October 15, 2002 to share holders of record at the close of business on September 17, 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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