PRESS RELEASES

Feb 24, 2003

Ecolab Declares Regular Dividend

ST. PAUL, Minn., Feb 24, 2003 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- The Board of Directors of Ecolab Inc. declared a regular quarterly cash dividend of $0.145 per common share, to be paid April 15, 2003 to share holders of record at the close of business on March 18, 2003.

Ecolab has paid cash dividends on its common stock for 66 consecutive years.

With sales of $3.4 billion, Ecolab is the leading global developer and marketer of premium cleaning, sanitizing, pest elimination, maintenance and repair products and services for the hospitality, foodservice, institutional and industrial markets.

Ecolab news releases and other investor information are available on the Internet at www.ecolab.com.

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