PRESS RELEASES

Feb 11, 2004

Ecolab Acquires Food Safety Products Provider

ST. PAUL, Minn.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Feb. 11, 2004--Ecolab Inc. announced it has acquired Daydots International. Daydots is a Fort Worth, Texas-based manufacturer and supplier of food safety products including food rotation labels and food preparation and handling bags. These products are primarily sold to restaurants and other foodservice operations through Daydots' direct-marketing catalog and Daydots' distributor partners. Daydots' 2003 sales were approximately $22 million. No other details were announced.

Commenting on the acquisition, Allan L. Schuman, Ecolab's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, stated, "Daydots represents an important food safety offering for our customers, assisting them in more effective and safe management of their food inventory, food handling and other kitchen product area needs. Daydots' strong catalog marketing capability also provides an exciting new channel for Ecolab to maximize our opportunities with existing and potential customers across multiple segments and divisions."

With 2003 sales of $3.8 billion, Ecolab is the leading global developer and marketer of premium cleaning, sanitizing, pest elimination, maintenance and repair products for the hospitality, foodservice, institutional and industrial markets. Ecolab shares are traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol ECL.

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

CONTACT: Ecolab Inc., St. Paul
Michael J. Monahan, 651-293-2809 (Tel)
651-225-3123 (Fax)

SOURCE: Ecolab Inc.

Back to Press Releases