PRESS RELEASES

May 10, 2005

Ecolab Schedules Webcast of Industry Conference for May 17Th

ST. PAUL, Minn.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--May 10, 2005--Ecolab Inc.'s President and Chief Executive Officer, Douglas M. Baker, will address financial analysts at the Goldman Sachs Basic Materials Conference in New York, NY, on Tuesday, May 17th at 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Ecolab will host a live webcast of Mr. Baker's presentation. Details for the webcast are as follows:

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TIME:      1:00 p.m. Eastern Time
DATE:      Tuesday, May 17, 2005
DURATION:  Approximately 40 minutes
LOCATION:  http://www.ecolab.com/investor
ARCHIVE:   A replay of the webcast will be available at that site
           through May 27, 2005.
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To access the webcast, go to the Investor Information portion of Ecolab's Web site at www.ecolab.com/investor and click on the webcast icon. Listening to the webcast requires Internet access, a soundcard and the Windows Media Player or other compatible streaming media player. If you do not have the Media Player client installed on your computer, you may download a free version of Windows Media Player, at http://www.microsoft.com/windows/windowsmedia/download/default.asp

With 2004 sales of $4.2 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.

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SOURCE: Ecolab Inc.
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