PRESS RELEASES

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Ecolab Offers New Solid Sanitizer for Foodservice Floor Drains

ST. PAUL, Minn., May 19, 2005 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- Ecolab Inc.'s new Pathways™ Solid Drain Sanitizer is a water-activated, time-released product that provides continuous sanitizing in floor drains.

The free-flowing design of the patented Pathways™ Solid Drain Sanitizer does not obstruct water drainage, and it has been proven to be effective against a broad spectrum of gram negative and gram positive organisms found on environmental surfaces, such as Staphylococcus aureus, Enterobacter aerogenes, Escherichia coli, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Listeria monocytogenes, and Salmonella typhimurium.

"Besides working against a number of common bacteria, this sanitizer also helps reduce build-up between cleanings by emulsifying soil deposits 24 hours a day," explained Denise Chandler, product line manager for the Ecolab Institutional Division. "Plus it's simple to install - all you have to do is place the ring onto the drain, and it slowly dissolves as the water passes over it."

The Pathways™ Solid Drain Sanitizer has broad applications throughout various foodservice facilities, including restaurants, hotels and casinos.

"This product is an additional element in Ecolab's wide array of offerings in the foodservice industry, and it further strengthens our 360 Degrees of Protection™ program," said John Tengwall, vice president of Foodservice Marketing for the company's Institutional Division. "With that program, our essential product solutions are designed to work together to both clean and enhance foodservice operations."

The Ecolab Pathways™ Solid Drain Sanitizer is available in 4-inch or 8-inch rings, and no dispenser is necessary.

The Institutional Division of Ecolab Inc. provides a full line of products, programs and services for the foodservice and hospitality industries, including warewashing, on-premise laundry, housekeeping, water filtration and conditioning, specialty kitchen, food safety and laundry products, and pool and spa management. For more information about Pathways™ Solid Drain Sanitizer, contact Ecolab Inc. at 1-800-35-CLEAN.

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.

SOURCE: Ecolab Inc.

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Back to Press Releases