PRESS RELEASES

May 3, 2006

Ecolab Schedules Webcast of Stockholders' Meeting on May 12th

ST. PAUL, Minn.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--May 3, 2006--Ecolab will host a live webcast of its annual meeting of stockholders to be held in St. Paul, MN. Details for the webcast are as follows:

TIME: 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time
DATE: Friday, May 12, 2006
DURATION: 30 minutes
LOCATION: http://www.ecolab.com/investor

ARCHIVE: A replay of the webcast will be available at that site through May 19, 2006.

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 2005 sales of $4.5 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, healthcare 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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