PRESS RELEASES

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Ecolab Expands Exelerate Product Line

ST. PAUL, Minn. – Aug. 30, 2006: Ecolab Inc. announced the introduction of Exelerate™ HS, a specialized, peroxyacid-acid based liquid pre-treatment designed to penetrate protein-based dairy soils and speed up the cleaning process for dairy pasteurizers and other heated process equipment. This new innovation is the latest in the highly-successful Exelerate line of products, which have been providing customers with superior results for over seven years.

"Exelerate HS quickly penetrates and pre-conditions stubborn protein soils on heated vessel walls making it easier to remove soil deposits in less time," explained John Tengwall, vice president of the Food and Beverage business unit at Ecolab. "And less time spent cleaning means more time up and running."

The new product also offers benefits to customers in both water and effluent surcharge savings. Because Exelerate HS is a pre-treatment program, it replaces up to 30 percent of the alkaline detergent necessary for the wash cycle, which helps reduce effluent surcharge and neutralization costs.

"It's a performance-driven cleaning agent that can help keep your dairy processing plant clean and efficiently productive," Tengwall added. Exelerate HS's unique formula provides cleaner, shinier surfaces by removing the cooked-on protein soils, as well as fat and carbohydrates found in virtually all dairy processing plants. The product is non-corrosive to stainless steel and compatible with most sealing and gasket materials when used at recommended concentrations. A solution of Exelerate HS is applied prior to the caustic wash in regular circulation, spray and soak applications. The patent-pending, acidic pH and chelating agents work to ease soil release on hard-to-clean vessel and pipe walls by removing mineral scale. Exelerate HS is not for use as a hard food contact surface sanitizer.

"We are pleased to add Exelerate HS to our popular operational efficiency product offerings," commented Kristen Gray, Ecolab senior marketing manager for the new product. "We are confident in its performance as our customers are already experiencing outstanding results, especially when using Exelerate HS in conjunction with a product like Conquest™," she concluded.

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 http://www.ecolab.com.

Contact: Kara Wallace (651) 293-4221

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