PRESS RELEASES

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Ecolab Introduces Endure(R) Revitalizing Skin Lotion and Creme for the Healthcare Industry

ST. PAUL, Minn., Feb 15, 2007 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- Ecolab Inc. today introduced Endure(R) Revitalizing Skin Lotion and Creme, a new skin care line formulated to help promote skin health and improve hand hygiene compliance in the healthcare industry.

Endure Revitalizing Skin Lotion and Creme products were specifically developed for the healthcare industry to provide customers with solutions that contain advanced moisturizers and conditioners as well as offer a higher level of skin protection to help prevent irritation and restore skin health. The product line responds to the unique needs of the healthcare industry, where the use of off-the-shelf consumer lotions can compromise on-site infection control. This is because many consumer lotions contain petroleum-based lubricants which can negatively affect the barrier properties of gloves, or include additives that can compromise the antimicrobial activity of handwashing products.

"Frequent handwashing is an essential part of hand hygiene in the healthcare industry. However, dry skin and contact dermatitis caused by frequent handwashing is a persistent problem for healthcare workers, which can reduce compliance and put them at risk for healthcare-associated infections," said Tim Mulhere, vice president and general manager of Healthcare at Ecolab. "We've formulated Endure Revitalizing Skin Lotion and Creme to improve moisture levels in the skin without compromising the antimicrobial benefits of other products or the efficacy of gloves used by healthcare workers."

Results from a clinical study of subjects with mild to moderately dry skin who used the lotion and creme found significantly improved levels of moisture in superficial and basal skin layers. Endure Revitalizing Skin Lotion and Creme are water-based formulations that absorb easily and completely into the skin with a non-greasy feeling. The lotions are available in lightly fragranced and fragrance-free formulas to provide users a choice and help encourage continued use to improve skin health (the creme is available in a fragrance-free formula). Additionally, their unique formulation does not compromise the efficacy of chlorhexidine gluconate (CHG) or gloves (latex or non-latex).

Endure Revitalizing Skin Lotion and Creme contain 15 emollients, humectants and moisturizers that work together to help improve skin health. Key ingredients which are unique in the healthcare industry include hyaluronic acid, a moisturizer that attracts water to the skin and helps rebuild skin structure, and SymRepair(R), a conditioner that improves skin's barrier function.

With 2006 sales of $5 billion and more than 13,000 sales-and-service associates, Ecolab Inc. (NYSE:ECL) is the global leader in cleaning, sanitizing, food safety and infection control products and services. Ecolab delivers comprehensive programs and services to the foodservice, food and beverage processing, healthcare, and hospitality markets in more than 160 countries. More news and information is available at www.ecolab.com.

(ECL-P)

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