

## PRESS RELEASES

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### Ecolab Named One of World's Most Ethical Companies

ST. PAUL, Minn., May 10, 2007 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- Ecolab has been named one of the World's Most Ethical Companies by Ethisphere Magazine. Fewer than 100 companies were chosen for the award.

"We are very proud to receive this award. The fundamental criteria used for the recognition - ethical leadership and corporate social responsibility - have been the underpinnings of our business approach since our inception, and remain key and integral factors to the way we successfully, sustainably and profitably grow our business," said Douglas M. Baker, Jr., Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, Ecolab Inc.

The Ethisphere Council defines ethical business leaderships as:

Good - Companies that proactively engage with the communities in which they serve, impact and operate;

Smart - Companies that invest in innovation, quality and sustainable business practices that reduce resource consumption in the production or use of their products and/or increase consumer health and safety;

Business - Companies that leverage relative positions of influence to affect positive industry change;

Profit - Companies that look strategically to profit fairly from such ethical leadership business practices, as ultimately only profit ensures continuance of desired institutional behavior.

Ethisphere Magazine measures companies using a rigorous eight-step process and scores them against nine distinct ethical leadership criteria. For more details, visit [www.ethisphere.com/methodology](http://www.ethisphere.com/methodology) to request the methodology report.

With sales of \$5 billion, Ecolab Inc. (NYSE:ECL) is the global leader in cleaning, sanitizing, food safety and infection prevention 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](http://www.ecolab.com).

(ECL - C)

SOURCE: Ecolab Inc.

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