

PRESS RELEASES

Dec 4, 2007

Ethisphere Magazine Names Doug Baker to 100 Most Influential People in Business Ethics

ST. PAUL, Minn., Dec 04, 2007 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- Ecolab Inc. announced that Douglas M. Baker, Jr., Ecolab's Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, was named among the 100 Most Influential People in Business Ethics by Ethisphere Magazine, a global publication dedicated to providing insight regarding the important correlation between ethics and profit. Individuals on the list, which will appear in the fourth quarter issue (available in December), were recognized for inspiring change in business ethics. Baker was ranked 58th in a group that included educators, elected officials, representatives from non-government organizations and business, journalists and finance.

"It is an honor to be recognized for leading such a great team of people. Our associate's spirit, pride, determination, commitment, passion and integrity are the key ingredients of Ecolab's successful culture. Doing the right thing for customers, our community and our associates each and every day strengthens our business proposition and success, and is the top priority for every one of us," said Baker.

According to Ethisphere, a panel of ethics experts from major universities including New York University, Pennsylvania State University, University of Delaware, and Arizona State University, submitted nominations and ranked individuals who influenced ethical behavior in global business. Research was done in cooperation with analysis from the Ethisphere Institute; while hundreds of individuals were considered, ultimately only 100 made the list. They are ranked in order from 1 to 100 based upon relative weightings provided by the panelists and analysts.

"These individuals deserve tremendous praise for their efforts to advance the public discourse on issues relating to business ethics," said Ethisphere Editor Stefan Linssen. "These finalists represent many different industries and organizations--large and small, public and private--but what unites them is an unwavering commitment to promoting ethical best practices and stimulating corporate social responsibility."

The 100 Most Influential People were indexed against a series of criteria to measure their performance. The criteria (available at <http://ethisphere.com/influential/>) included business and thought leadership, corporate culture and design and sustainability.

With 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 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.

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SOURCE: Ecolab Inc.

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