

PRESS RELEASES

May 20, 2008

Ecolab Raises \$118,000 for the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation

CHICAGO, May 20, 2008 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- Ecolab Inc. announced today that it raised more than \$118,000 for the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation (NRAEF) at the 2008 Chairman's Reception and 6th Annual Silent Auction on May 18. Ecolab is one of the NRAEF's largest supporters having contributed more than \$1 million to the non-profit organization over the past six years.

Michael Hickey, senior vice president of Global Business Development at Ecolab, presented Linda Bacin, vice chairman of the NRAEF, with a donation of \$118,000 on behalf of Ecolab.

"We were pleased to see such an overwhelming response for the support of our industry by hosting over 850 customers and industry partners at this special event," Hickey said.

The event is held annually during the National Restaurant Association Restaurant, Hotel-Motel Show. Donations for this year's auction included vacation packages, resort and restaurant packages, sports memorabilia, culinary education equipment and other valuable items.

"We are proud to continue our support of the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation in its mission to build a solid foundation for the long-term vitality of our industry," added Douglas M. Baker, Jr., Ecolab chairman, president and chief executive officer. "This donation reflects Ecolab's ongoing commitment to the people in our industry, and the communities in which we conduct business every day."

The NRAEF provides high school seniors and college undergraduate students with scholarships to pursue a restaurant and foodservice education. The scholarships are presented to select qualified applicants who have been accepted into an eligible restaurant and/or foodservice management collegiate program. Since 2003, more than 150 students have been awarded scholarships as a result of Ecolab's financial support.

"As the nation's second largest private sector employer, the restaurant and foodservice industry is the cornerstone of the American economy," Bacin said. "Ecolab's commitment to the NRAEF underscores its dedication to supporting our education initiatives to help develop a highly skilled workforce, and we are extremely appreciative of the company's generosity."

About Ecolab Inc.

With sales of \$5.5 billion and more than 14,000 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 foodservice, food and beverage processing, healthcare, and hospitality markets in more than 160 countries. More news and information is available at www.ecolab.com.

About NRAEF

The National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation (NRAEF), a not-for-profit organization, is dedicated to fulfilling the educational mission of the National Restaurant Association. Focusing on three key strategies of risk management, recruitment, and retention, the NRAEF is the premier provider of educational resources, materials and programs which address attracting, developing and retaining the industry's workforce. For more information on NRAEF, visit www.nraef.org.

(ECL-C)

SOURCE: Ecolab Inc.

Ecolab Inc.

Jennifer Kirscher, 651-293-2846

Copyright Business Wire 2008

News Provided by COMTEX

[Back to Press Releases](#)