PRESS RELEASES

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Ecolab Enters Distributor Agreement with Healthcarelinc.com to Provide Consumer E-Commerce Site

ST. PAUL, Minn., Oct 20, 2008 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- Ecolab Inc. announced that it has reached an agreement with healthcarelinc.com to provide an online avenue (www.healthcarelinc.com) for the general public to purchase professional healthcare products previously sold only to the acute care and alternate care marketplace to help prevent the spread of infection.

"Each week dozens of existing and potential customers contact Ecolab's customer service department and Ecolab Healthcare Representatives regarding the ability to order products they have enjoyed using in hospitals," said Angela Dillow, Vice-President of Marketing, Ecolab Infection Prevention. "Now we have a way for anyone to order these products online, simply by using a credit card."

Professional healthcare products now offered online include Bacti-Foam(R), a mild, emollient-rich foam antimicrobial soap, Quik-Care(TM), a foaming waterless hand sanitizer, Endure(R) 320 Advanced Care, a waterless hand sanitizer formulated with moisturizers, and Endure Revitalizing Lotion, which provides superior moisturization compared to other healthcare brand lotions. Also available are two ready-to-use EPA-registered hospital-use disinfectants for cleaning and disinfecting of household surfaces: Asepti-Wipe(TM) II Germicidal Disposable Cloths and Asepticare(R) TB + II.

With sales of $5.5 billion and more than 26,000 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.

(ECL-C)

SOURCE: Ecolab Inc.

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