
PRESS RELEASES

Feb 24, 2009

Ecolab Acquires Provider of Surgical Protection and Contamination Control Systems

ST. PAUL, Minn., Feb 24, 2009 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- Ecolab Inc. announced today that it has acquired selected assets of the Stackhouse business of CORPAK Medsystems, Inc. CORPAK Medsystems is a portfolio company of Linden LLC. Stackhouse is a leading developer, manufacturer and marketer of surgical helmets and smoke evacuators, primarily for use during orthopedic surgeries. Stackhouse's surgical helmet filtration and smoke evacuation systems are used by the surgeon and surgical team during orthopedic procedures and other cases where airborne contaminants and potential Healthcare Associated Infections are a significant concern. Stackhouse sales were approximately \$4 million in 2008. No further details regarding the transaction were announced.

Douglas M. Baker, Jr., Ecolab's Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer commented on the announcement, saying, "The acquisition of Stackhouse further expands our portfolio of solutions that help reduce Healthcare Associated Infections (HAI). Stackhouse broadens Ecolab's healthcare offerings in surgical barrier protection and personal protection, and will allow more aggressive development of our opportunities in the growing orthopedic surgery market."

With sales of \$6 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-A)

SOURCE: Ecolab Inc.

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