

## PRESS RELEASES

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### Ecolab Reports on Its Sustainability Commitment and Actions

ST. PAUL, Minn., Apr 27, 2009 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- Ecolab Inc. published its 2008 Sustainability Report, which details the corporation's efforts in the areas of economic progress, environmental stewardship and social responsibility; and provides data on related activities for 2008.

"We have a strong history of sustainability at Ecolab, from innovation in our product development to the efficiency of our daily operations," says Douglas M. Baker, Jr., Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Ecolab. "Sustainability has always been a critical part of our business, and it's especially important during these challenging economic times that we continue to provide our customers with sustainable solutions that meet their needs."

Highlights of the report include:

- Continued advancements in the sustainability of products and services. From solid formulations to innovative packaging and dispensing methods, Ecolab is a leader in developing effective and efficient solutions that help customers conserve water and energy, increase safety and reduce waste.
- Progress in managing manufacturing impact. In 2008, Ecolab reduced water usage in its worldwide operations by 12 percent, energy usage by 5 percent, and effluent by 20 percent.
- The company's GHG reduction goal. As a participant in U.S. EPA's Climate Leaders program, Ecolab set a goal to reduce U.S. GHG emissions by 20 percent per dollar sales over a five-year period.
- Improvements in the sustainability of its supply chain. Ecolab exceeded its Ethical Sourcing goal and completed the pre-registration phase of REACH (Registration, Evaluation and Authorisation of Chemicals) in Europe.
- Contributions to communities. In 2008, Ecolab sustained its strong tradition of giving by contributing \$7 million to communities through the Ecolab Foundation, corporate and in-kind giving.

The 2008 Sustainability Report illustrates that Ecolab works to positively impact the environment far beyond managing its own operations. Through innovative product development and personalized service, Ecolab helps each of its nearly 1 million customers around the world minimize their environmental footprint while providing effective cleaning and sanitizing solutions.

"We provide our customers with products and services that help them achieve cleaner, safer, healthier surroundings," says Alice Wheelwright, Vice President of Global Market and Segment Initiatives, who leads Ecolab's sustainability initiative. "And we remain committed to our global sustainability principles in everything we do."

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](http://www.ecolab.com).

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