
PRESS RELEASES

Dec 2, 2009

Fifth Annual Food Safety Symposium Focuses on Best Practice Compliance in Food Retail Markets

ST. PAUL, Minn., Dec 02, 2009 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- Ecolab Inc. continued to strengthen its leadership role in the area of food safety by co-sponsoring the fifth annual food retail Food Safety Symposium, along with Food Marketing Institute and Hobart.

Held in October at Ecolab's Research, Development and Engineering Center in Eagan, Minn., the annual event provides a platform for food retail organizations, industry experts and local public health officials to share best practices, proactive and preventive approaches, and personal experiences surrounding food safety issues.

"With food safety issues continuing to appear in national media, it's extremely important that industry leaders come together to find solutions to address these concerns across the food supply chain," said Bobby Mendez, senior vice president of Retail & Specialty Markets for Ecolab. "This symposium complements the work Ecolab does on a daily basis when we partner with our customers to address everyday food safety concerns and help them recognize potential food safety threats before they become major problems."

This year's event topics included the consumer trend to purchase more local produce and those impacts on wholesale suppliers; how the Minnesota Department of Health investigates national foodborne outbreaks; successful food safety improvements Hobart made to clean its equipment more efficiently and effectively; and innovative ways to use information technology in food safety assessments.

"Food safety is one of the most significant challenges faced by our industry today," Mendez added. "Ecolab believes it is important to bring together top companies and leaders to share our combined knowledge and experiences, and collaborate on solutions that benefit everyone."

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.

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