

PRESS RELEASES

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Ecolab Reports on Its Sustainability Commitment and Actions; Expands Scope of Goals and Reporting

ST. PAUL, Minn., Apr 06, 2010 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- Ecolab Inc. published its 2009 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 2009.

"This marks our sixth year of reporting on our sustainability efforts and progress," says Douglas M. Baker, Jr., Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Ecolab. "Sustainability is core to Ecolab's vision to help create a cleaner, safer, healthier world, and has been a cornerstone of how we do business since our company's founding."

Highlights of the report include:

- Recognition for leadership in health protection, food safety, environmental stewardship and ethical business.
- 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 the impact of its operations. In 2009, Ecolab implemented a number of strategies designed to improve efficiency and reduce the environmental impact of its fleet and manufacturing locations around the world.
- Contributions to communities - Ecolab sustained its strong tradition of giving in 2009, contributing \$7.8 million to charitable organizations through Foundation, corporate and in-kind giving.

Additionally, Ecolab expanded its commitment to continuous improvement by setting a new goal: To reduce global water consumption, disposed waste and effluent water in its operations by 18 percent per metric ton of shipped product from 2009 to 2015. The company is also expanding its greenhouse gas inventories to include emissions from global manufacturing and U.S. business travel.

"We know that sustainability is a journey, and that our work is never done," Baker concluded. "We are committed to doing everything we can to ensure that the net impact of our business is a positive one."

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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SOURCE: Ecolab Inc.

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