

PRESS RELEASES

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Ecolab Donates More Than \$725,000 to Teachers Through National Education Grant Program

ST. PAUL, Minn., Sep 17, 2010 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- In keeping with its quarter of a century tradition of supporting community schools, Ecolab Inc. has awarded more than \$725,000 in 2010 through its Ecolab Foundation's *Visions for Learning* grant program in 12 communities across the U.S., with \$190,000 distributed in the St. Paul area. More than 300 schools and thousands of students nationwide benefited from the program this year.

"Ecolab has consistently supported education, using multiple programs to better reach and benefit students," said Douglas M. Baker, Jr., Ecolab's Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer. "The *Visions for Learning* grant program, which is our largest, augments the classroom curriculum for students in grades K-12 by providing additional classroom materials to help students reach their learning goals. We know teachers frequently spend personal funds on materials to improve the learning experience for their students. Our experience partnering with teachers to provide additional classroom materials has proven a great way to help both teachers and students enhance their experience and achievement."

Valeria Silva, Superintendent of Saint Paul Public Schools commented, saying, "Ecolab's longstanding partnership with the Saint Paul Public Schools is a testament to the company's commitment to supporting excellence in education. Ecolab sets an example of strong corporate involvement by contributing time, talent and resources to our community and our students."

Since its inception, Ecolab has distributed \$8 million nationally through its *Visions for Learning* program. The *Visions for Learning* grants are given to kindergarten through 12th grade teachers to support and engage students, helping them to achieve at-grade level in basic skills and enrich the classroom experience. Projects funded this year include supplies to build and maintain a school greenhouse and a weather station, a digital science library, Math Family Fun Packets and classroom engineering kits.

A celebration for grant recipients from St. Paul Public Schools will be held at Ecolab's Research Center in Eagan on October 27.

The Ecolab Foundation contributes to the quality of life in the communities where it operates, supporting organizations and programs that strengthen and enrich the community, focusing on youth and education, civic and community development, arts and culture, and the environment and conservation. The Ecolab Foundation will contribute more than \$5 million in 2010 to communities where Ecolab associates live and work.

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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Kris Taylor, 651-293-2259

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