
PRESS RELEASES

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Ecolab Expands Europe Healthcare Business

ST. PAUL, Minn.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Ecolab Inc. announced it has acquired Esoform, the largest independent Italian healthcare manufacturer focused on infection prevention and personal care. Based outside of Venice, Italy, it has annual sales of approximately \$12 million. No further details were disclosed.

Douglas M. Baker, Jr., Ecolab's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer commented on the announcement, saying, "This transaction represents our continued commitment to expanding Ecolab's growing global healthcare business. Esoform brings us a state-of-the-art GMP-certified manufacturing facility which enables significant product supply efficiencies. We also gain new technology that can be leveraged across our European business along with a strong position in Italy's healthcare market. This step further strengthens our global healthcare capabilities and portfolio."

With 2011 annualized sales of \$11 billion and more than 38,000 employees, Ecolab Inc. (NYSE: ECL) is the global leader in water, hygiene and energy technologies and services that provide and protect clean water, safe food, abundant energy and healthy environments. Ecolab delivers comprehensive programs and services to the food, energy, healthcare, industrial and hospitality markets in more than 160 countries. More Ecolab news and information is available at www.ecolab.com.

(ECL-A)

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Ecolab Inc.

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