PRESS RELEASES

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Ecolab China Recognized for its Commitment to Sustainability

BEIJING - May 22, 2012 - Ecolab (NYSE: ECL) was presented with a New Cleanness Golden Award at the 2012 China International Cleaning Industry Expo (CICIE) in Beijing for its leadership in the development of sustainable cleaning solutions for the Chinese market. The award, presented by CICIE, also recognizes Ecolab's long-term commitment to sustainable product development and the company's advancement of China's green cleaning industry.

"It is a great honor to be recognized for our efforts to provide customers in China and around the world with sustainable cleaning solutions," said Sam Hsu, senior vice president, Ecolab. "As the global leader in water, hygiene and energy technologies and services, sustainability is an Ecolab core value, and this award reaffirms our purpose to make the world cleaner, safer and healthier."

During CICIE 2012, Ecolab demonstrated several leading technologies that align with the award's "new cleanness" theme and improve safety, conserve water and energy use, and reduce waste, including 3D TRASAR® technology and PARETO™ mixing technology, two innovations from Nalco, an Ecolab company.

3D TRASAR technology helped customers save more than 93 billion gallons of water in 2011 by combining chemistry, remote services and sophisticated monitoring and control to improve a range of industrial operations. PARETO mixing technology saved customers more than two billion gallons of water and nearly 900 billion BTUs of energy in 2011 by optimizing the injection of chemical additives into industrial process streams.

About Ecolab

With 2011 pro forma sales of $11 billion and more than 40,000 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. For more Ecolab news and information, visit www.ecolab.com.

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May 22, 2012
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Back to Press Releases