

PRESS RELEASES

Sep 27, 2012

Ecolab Expands Latin America Food & Beverage Business

ST. PAUL, Minn.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Ecolab Inc. announced it has agreed to purchase Quimiproducos S. A. de C. V, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Fomento Económico Mexicano, S.A.B. de C.V. ("FEMSA") (NYSE: FMX), a Mexico-based multi-national company. With 2011 revenue of \$35 million, Quimiproducos is a leading manufacturer and provider of cleaning and sanitizing and water treatment products and services to beverage and brewery customers in Mexico; it also operates in several Central and South American countries. Completion of the transaction is subject to customary regulatory clearance and other standard closing conditions. No further details were disclosed.

Douglas M. Baker, Jr., Ecolab's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer commented on the announcement, saying, "This acquisition will help us to build scale, strengthen our core product offerings and improve service capabilities to our beverage processing customers in the fast growing Latin America region. We look forward to further developing our relationships and business in Latin America through this agreement as well as through our expanded sales and service capacities."

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. More Ecolab news and information is available at www.ecolab.com.

(ECL-A)

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Source: Ecolab Inc.

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