

PRESS RELEASES

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Ecolab Opens New Training Facility in Eagan, Minn.

Center enhances training capabilities and expands research space

EAGAN, Minn.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Ecolab today celebrated the official opening of its new training center at the company's Schuman Campus in Eagan, Minn. The 51,000-square-foot facility houses a state-of-the-art training center for the company's Institutional division and includes additional space for Research, Development and Engineering expansion.

"We strive to empower our associates with the unmatched industry expertise for which we are widely known in our industry," said Douglas M. Baker, Jr., Ecolab chairman and chief executive officer. "The Institutional Training Center will help our field associates better develop and maintain the expert knowledge and skills necessary to solve our customers' operational challenges and help them ensure food safety and guest satisfaction."

Ecolab's Institutional business provides cleaning, food safety, infection prevention and guest satisfaction solutions to customers in the foodservice, hospitality, healthcare, lodging, education and commercial building industries.

The Institutional Training Center features classroom and lab space for associate training sessions. Classrooms are outfitted with the most commonly deployed systems for hands-on training, and the facility's three wet labs are designed to simulate customer equipment, facilities and situations. In addition, the Institutional Training Center also provides dedicated space to highlight milestones achieved during Ecolab Institutional's 90-year history.

"Our customers look to us to help ensure safe food and healthy environments for their guests," said Michael Hickey, executive vice president and president, Global Institutional. "In this facility, we will prepare our field associates to excel in delivering cleaning, sanitizing and food safety solutions and expertise."

New Ecolab Institutional field associates undergo the industry's most comprehensive training, including classroom and e-learning instruction, coaching and mentoring sessions and on-the-job training as part of their onboarding process. In addition, field associates also receive regular training throughout their career.

"In the coming year, we are planning more than 130 training sessions for more than 2,000 participants from our Institutional field team," said Hickey.

The new facility also provides additional space for Ecolab's Research, Development and Engineering team.

"We design products and technologies to help our customers optimize their operations while minimizing environmental impact," said Dr. Larry Berger, executive vice president and chief technical officer. "The additional laboratory space this facility provides will expand global product design and application development in support of our Institutional business and our other cleaning and sanitizing businesses."

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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