

PRESS RELEASES

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Ecolab and Trucost Expand Water Risk Monetizer to Include Revenue-at-Risk Assessment

New analysis informs decisions in response to increasing water scarcity

ST. PAUL, Minn.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--The [WaterRisk Monetizer](#), industry's first publicly available financial modeling tool that enables businesses to factor current and future water risks into decision making, now provides users with insights into how water scarcity impacts revenue. The tool's new assessment helps water-dependent businesses better understand the full value of water to their operations and identify revenue at risk based on current and projected water scarcity.

The Water Risk Monetizer, first introduced in November 2014, was developed by Ecolab Inc., a global leader in water technologies and services, and Trucost, a global leader in valuing natural capital. Ecolab and Trucost are committed to increasing understanding of global water risks and helping businesses make more informed decisions for responsible water use. The Water Risk Monetizer is a secure site available at no cost to businesses throughout the world, and only the user has access to the information provided.

The tool is designed to help companies address the impact of water scarcity on their ability to operate, generate profit and grow. The premise for the tool in its expanded form is:

- Water scarcity has the potential to increase the cost of water which makes operations more expensive and reduces profit margins.
- Water scarcity limits availability, making it more difficult to access the water a business needs to operate which can decrease production and result in loss of revenue.

"As water scarcity increases around the world, business leaders need actionable information to help them understand and manage their current and future water-related risks," said Douglas M. Baker, Jr., Ecolab chairman and chief executive officer. "The Water Risk Monetizer helps businesses make informed decisions to enable growth in this new era of water scarcity."

Developing effective water management strategies can be hindered by two major factors. First, water is often not priced to reflect its full value. As a result, many businesses are not factoring potential cost implications associated with water scarcity into business decisions. Second, businesses rely on water and often take its availability for granted and assume necessary water supplies will be available in the future. The reality is that the world's water supplies are limited. Demand is increasing and quality is declining due to the need for more food and energy, increased economic development and other factors. The tool provides businesses potential financial implications related to water scarcity risks and the likelihood that these implications will occur.

The tool assesses the potential cost or impact of water risks in ways similar to how other risks are considered in planning and capital allocation by providing:

- Risk-adjusted water cost: monetary estimate of the full value of water at a facility level, based on what water would cost if supply and demand were accurately reflected.
- Potential revenue at risk: estimated amount and likelihood of the revenue that could potentially be lost at a facility due to the impact of water scarcity on operations.

"The new revenue-at-risk indicator illuminates the threat that businesses face from water scarcity," said Richard Mattison, chief executive of Trucost. "It helps companies raise awareness about the need for investing in sustainable water management, as well as providing a practical water risk assessment tool to factor water scarcity into business decisions."

HOW IT WORKS

The Water Risk Monetizer uses scientific models developed by Trucost to quantify the potential impact of water scarcity on a facility in monetary terms.

Risk-Adjusted Water Cost *(introduced November 2014)*

To calculate a risk-adjusted water cost, the water risk premium model correlates local water scarcity to considerations that contribute to the full value of incoming water, based on scarcity, for a specific facility, including:

- Current and projected water use
- Current and projected local water scarcity
- Economic variance and purchasing power
- Historical trends in country-level water tariffs

Using algorithms derived from published scientific studies on water scarcity and in-stream water values, such as groundwater recharge, waste assimilation, wildlife habitat and recreational activities, the tool correlates a facility's water use to these local water scarcity considerations to calculate a "water risk premium."

The water risk premium, when added to the local price a business pays for water, quantifies the value a business should place on water based on real and future water scarcity risks (current, three-, five- and ten-year projections).

Potential Revenue at Risk *(introduced August 2015)*

To calculate revenue at risk, this new assessment estimates the value of the revenue that could potentially be lost at a facility due to the impact of water scarcity on operations. The tool uses a revenue-at-risk model to estimate the amount of water available to the facility - its "share" of total water available to industry water users in the

basin based on the facility's contribution to the localeconomy.

Because water is a finite resource that is shared by many users in awater basin, the amount of water that should be available to a facilitymay be less than what a facility needs.

The amount available also could change over time, as water scarcityincreases or as a local economy grows (the tool forecasts revenue atrisk over three, five and ten years). The revenue-at-risk model comparesthe estimated amount of water a facility requires to generate revenue (cubic meter per USD of revenue) to the facility's share of water in thebasin if water were allocated among water users based on economicactivity (contribution to basin-level GDP). If more water is requiredthan the basin share of water allocated (as determined by the model),then a proportion of the facility's revenue is potentially at risk.

For more information and to try the tool, visit www.WaterRiskMonetizer.com.

AboutEcolab

A trusted partner at more than one millioncustomer locations,Ecolab(ECL) is the global leader in water, hygieneand energy technologies and services that protect people and vitalresources. With 2014 sales of\$14 billionand 47,000 associates,Ecolabdelivers comprehensive solutions and on-site service to promote safood, maintain clean environments, optimize water and energy use andimprove operational efficiencies for customers in the food, healthcare,energy, hospitality and industrial markets in more than 170 countriesaround the world. For moreEcolabnews and information, visit www.ecolab.com.

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About Trucost

Trucost has been helping companies, investors,governments, academics and thought leaders to understand the economicconsequences of natural capital dependency for over 15 years. Ourworld-leading data and insight enable our clients to identify naturalcapital dependency across companies, products, supply chains andinvestments; manage risk from volatile commodity prices and increasingenvironmental costs; and ultimately build more sustainable businessmodels and brands. Key to our approach is that we not only quantifynatural capital dependency, we also put a price on it, helping ourclients understand environmental risk in business terms. For moreTrucost news and information, visit www.trucost.com.

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