

PRESS RELEASES

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Ecolab Makes Binding Offer to Acquire Anios - A Leading European Healthcare and Hygiene Business

ST. PAUL, Minn.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Ecolab Inc. has made a binding offer to acquire Laboratoires Anios from co-owners Bertrand and Thierry Letartre and private investment company Ardian. Anios is a leading European manufacturer and marketer of hygiene and disinfection products for the healthcare, food service, and food and beverage processing industries. Based in Lille, France, Anios has a presence in more than 85 countries and employs approximately 700 people worldwide. Sales were approximately €220 million (\$245 million) in 2015.

The transaction is structured as a binding offer with exclusivity protection to allow the sellers to consult with their French works councils prior to entering into the definitive purchase agreement. Once the definitive agreement is executed, the transaction would remain subject to clearance by applicable regulatory and competition authorities prior to closing. The transaction is expected to close in late 2016, subject to satisfaction of such contingencies. No other details were announced.

Douglas M. Baker, Jr., Ecolab chairman and chief executive officer, commented, saying, "Ecolab is committed to being the global leader in providing hospitals and healthcare operators with effective and innovative solutions for infection prevention and hygiene. We are excited to join forces with Anios because of our shared passion for this mission. Their innovative product line expands the solutions we can offer while also providing a complementary geographic footprint. Its presence in the food and beverage processing and foodservice markets also complements ours. We are pleased that CEO Bertrand Letartre and Managing Director Thierry Letartre have agreed to remain with our combined organization providing continued leadership of the acquired business."

Bertrand Letartre and Thierry Letartre commented, saying, "We are very pleased to have the opportunity to partner with Ecolab. The strength of the Anios brand combined with Ecolab's global footprint and leadership positions will help accelerate the growth of our business. It will also create new and exciting career opportunities for our employees and bring innovative solutions to our customers"

About Ecolab

A trusted partner at more than one million customer locations, Ecolab (ECL) is the global leader in water, hygiene and energy technologies and services that protect people and vital resources. With 2015 sales of \$13.5 billion and 47,000 associates, Ecolab delivers comprehensive solutions and on-site service to promote safe food, maintain clean environments, optimize water and energy use and improve operational efficiencies for customers in the food, healthcare, energy, hospitality and industrial markets in more than 170 countries around the world. For more Ecolab news and information, visit www.ecolab.com.

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About Laboratoires Anios

Laboratoires Anios has been producing disinfection products since 1898 and is a leader in the European hygiene market. Based in France, the company has more than 700 employees serving customers in more than 85 countries, including hospitals, clinics and medical offices; cosmetics, pharmaceutical and food and beverage manufacturers; and lodging and catering facilities.

(ECL-A)

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