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ECOLAB INC Form 4 Image: State of the public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, or State of 1934, doi: 10, Image: State of the public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, or State of the public Utility Holding Company Act of 1944, doi: 10, Image: State of the public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, or State of 1934, doi: 10,										
(Print or Type Re	esponses)									
1. Name and Address of Reporting Person <u>*</u> BAKER DOUGLAS M JR			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ECOLAB INC [ECL]			5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)				
(Last)	(First) (M		3. Date of Earliest Transaction							
ECOLAB INC., 370 WABASHA STREET N.			(Month/Day/Year) 12/03/2008			_X_ Director 10% Owner _X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below) below) Chairman, President & CEO				
ST. PAUL, N	Filed(Mon			ndment, Date Original th/Day/Year)			 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person 			
(City)	(State) (2	Zip)	Table	I - Non-Deriva	ative Sec	curities Acc	quired, Disposed o	or Beneficia	llv Owned	
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	Execution any	ed Date, if	3. 4. S TransactionAct	Securitie equired (sposed o str. 3, 4	es A) or f (D)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	-	
Common Stock							125,618.49 (1)	D		
Common Stock							4,949.492 <u>(2)</u>	Ι	By Ecolab Savings Plan	

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of orDerivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amou Underlying Securi (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amo Num Shar
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 35.63	12/03/2008		A	421,000	12/03/2009 <u>(3)</u>	12/03/2018	Common Stock	421

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
BAKER DOUGLAS M JR ECOLAB INC. 370 WABASHA STREET N. ST. PAUL, MN 55102	Х		Chairman, President & CEO				
Signatures							
/s/ David F. Duvick, Attorney- Baker, Jr.	12/05/2008						

**Signature of Reporting Person

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Includes 327.647 shares acquired by reporting person on January 18, 2008, 360.302 shares acquired on April 18, 2008, 376.233 shares
(1) acquired on July 18, 2008 and 409.226 shares acquired on October 20, 2008 by dividend reinvestment under the Dividend Reinvestment Plan for shareholders of Ecolab sponsored by Computershare Trust Company, Inc.

Date

Number of UNITS in the Ecolab Stock Fund of the Ecolab Savings Plan (401(k) Plan) as of October 31, 2008. Includes 164.482 UNITS acquired since the reporting person's last report. (The 4,949.492 UNITS are the equivalent of approximately 9,257 SHARES of the issuer's Common Stock.)

The option will be exercisable, on a cumulative basis, as to one-third of the option shares (excluding any fractional portion less than one share), on each of the first and second anniversaries of the date of grant and as to the remaining shares on the third anniversary of the date

(3) shate), on each of the first and second aninversaries of the date of grant and as to the remaining shates of the date of grant; provided, however, that if a Change in Control (as that term is defined in the 2005 Ecolab Inc. Stock Incentive Plan) will occur, then the option, if it has been outstanding for at least six months from the date of grant, will become immediately exercisable in full.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.