

LEVIN JERRY W
Form 4
January 20, 2009

FORM 4

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
LEVIN JERRY W

(Last) (First) (Middle)

J. W. LEVIN PARTNERS, LLC, 9
WEST 57TH STREET, 26TH
FLOOR

(Street)

NEW YORK, NY 10019

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
ECOLAB INC [ECL]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
01/16/2009

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V Amount (D) Price			
Common Stock	01/16/2009		M	24,000 A \$ 20.7969	112,264.45	D	
Common Stock	01/16/2009		F	13,782 D \$ 36.215	98,482.45	D	

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

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(9-02)

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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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	Amount or Number of Shares
Director Stock Option (Right to Buy) ⁽¹⁾	\$ 20.7969	01/16/2009		M	24,000	05/14/1999 05/14/2009	Common Stock	24,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
LEVIN JERRY W J. W. LEVIN PARTNERS, LLC 9 WEST 57TH STREET, 26TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10019	X			

Signatures

/s/David F. Duvick, Attorney-in-Fact for Jerry Levin	01/20/2009
**Signature of Reporting Person	Date

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).

This option was previously reported as covering 12,000 shares at an exercise price of \$41.59375 per share. It has been adjusted to reflect (1) the 2 for 1 stock split of Ecolab Inc. Common Stock on June 6, 2003. The option vested in three installments on May 12, 2000, May 11, 2001 and May 10, 2002.

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.