ECOLAB INC Form 4

December 09, 2005

FORM 4

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

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

January 31, Expires: 2005

OMB APPROVAL

Estimated average burden hours per response...

0.5

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

Form 5 Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, obligations Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading SCHMECHEL DANIEL J Issuer Symbol ECOLAB INC [ECL] (Check all applicable) (First) (Middle) (Last) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) Director 10% Owner Other (specify X_ Officer (give title ECOLAB INC., 370 WABASHA 12/07/2005 below) STREET N. Vice President & Controller (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting ST DALIL MNI 55102 Person

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(City)	(State) (Z	Zip) Table	I - Non-D	erivative Securities Ac	quired, Disposed o	of, or Beneficial	lly Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities onAcquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (A) or	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 Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock			Code V	Amount (D) Price	20,046.426 (1)	D	
Common Stock					2,115.234 (2)	I	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. 5. Number of TransactiorDerivative Code Securities (Instr. 8) Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount Underlying Securition (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amou or Numb of Sha
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 34.075	12/07/2005		A	25,200	12/07/2006(3)	12/07/2015	Common Stock	25,2

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

SCHMECHEL DANIEL J ECOLAB INC. 370 WABASHA STREET N. ST. PAUL, MN 55102

Vice President & Controller

Signatures

/s/David F. Duvick, Attorney-in-fact for Daniel J.
Schmechel 12/09/2005

**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).
- Includes .942 shares acquired by reporting person on April 15, 2005, .993 shares acquired by reporting person on July 15, 2005 and 1.003 shares acquired by reporting person on October 17, 2005 under the Ecolab Dividend Reinvestment Plan.
- Number of UNITS in the Ecolab Stock Fund of the Ecolab Savings Plan (401(k) Plan) as of October 31, 2005. Includes 159.261 UNITS (2) acquired since the reporting person's last report. (The 2,115.234 UNITS are the equivalent of approximately 3,822.601 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 fractitonal 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 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.

Reporting Owners 2