ECOLAB INC Form 4

December 09, 2005

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

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

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

January 31, Expires: 2005 Estimated average

OMB APPROVAL

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

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

burden hours per response... 0.5

See Instruction

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

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 MILLER JAMES A 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. EVP - Institutional Sector NA (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. PAUL, MN 55102 Person

(City)	(State) (Z	Zip) Table	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 onAcquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (A) or Amount (D) Price	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					5,004.382 (1)	D			
Common Stock					668.918 (2)	I	By Ecolab Savings Plan		

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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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 or Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	Expiration Date	o. 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	50,400	12/07/2006(3)	12/07/2015	Common Stock	50,4	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

MILLER JAMES A ECOLAB INC. 370 WABASHA STREET N. ST. PAUL, MN 55102

EVP - Institutional Sector NA

Signatures

/s/David F. Duvick, Attorney-in-fact for James A.
Miller
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 6.585 shares acquired by reporting person on January 18, 2005, 6.668 shares acquired by reporting person April 15, 2005, 7.03 shares acquired by reporting person on July 15, 2005 and 7.1 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 Ocotober 31, 2005. Includes 143.139 UNITS (2) acquired since the reporting person's last report. (The 668.918 UNITS are the equivalent of approximately 1,208.853 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 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.

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