INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 <u>*</u> WHITE JAMES H			2. Date of Event Requiring Statement(Month/Day/Year)	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ECOLAB INC [ECL]				
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	04/24/2007	4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner XOfficer Other (give title below) (specify below) Executive VP - EMEA			5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	
ECOLAB G OHG, REI WERFSTRA	SHOLZER							
	(Street)						6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting	
DUSSELDORF, 2M D-40589						Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned					
1.Title of Secur (Instr. 4)	ity		2. Amount o Beneficially (Instr. 4)		3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nat Owne (Instr.		
Common Sto	ock		0		D	Â		
Common Sto	ock		269.119 <u>(1</u>	<u>)</u>	Ι	By E	Ecolab Savings Plan	

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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

1. Title of Derivative	2. Date Exercisable and	3. Title and Amount of	4.	5.	6. Nature of Indirect
Security	Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	Securities Underlying	Conversion	1	Beneficial
(Instr. 4)	(Wohn/Day/Tear)	Derivative Security	or Exercise	Form of	Ownership

January 31,

2005

0.5

Expires:

response...

Estimated average burden hours per

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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	(Instr. 4) Title	Amount or Number of Shares	Price of Derivative Security	Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	(Instr. 5)
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	10/27/2006(2)	10/27/2015	Common Stock	50,000	\$ 32.99	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	12/06/2007 <u>(3)</u>	12/06/2016	Common Stock	23,800	\$ 45.24	D	Â

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
F	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
WHITE JAMES H ECOLAB GMBH & CO. OHG REISHOLZER WERFSTRASSE 38-42 DUSSELDORF, 2M D-40589	Â	Â	Executive VP - EMEA	Â		
Signatures						
David F. Duvick, as attorney-in-fact for James H. White		05/04/2007				
<u>**</u> Signature of Reporting Person		Date				

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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).
- (1) Number of UNITS in the Ecolab Stock Fund of the Ecolab Savings Plan (401(k) Plan) as of March 31, 2007. (The 269.119UNITS are the equivalent of approximately 502 shares of the issuer's Common Stock.)

Options granted under the Ecolab Inc. 2002 Stock Incentive Plan on October 27, 2005. The option becomes exercisable, on a cumulative basis, as to to one-third of the option shares (excluding any fractional portion less than one share) on each of the first and second

(2) 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 2002 Plan) of the Company occurs, then the option, if it has been outstanding for at least six months from the date of grant, will become immediately exercisable in full.

Option granted under the Ecolab Inc. 2005 Stock Incentive Plan on December 6, 2006. The option becomes exercisable, on a cumulative basis, as to to one-third of the option shares (excluding any fractional portion less than one share) on each of the first and second

(3) 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 Plan) of the Company occurs, 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.