

ECOLAB INC  
Form 4  
September 18, 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 \*  
BAKER DOUGLAS M JR

(Last) (First) (Middle)

ECOLAB INC., 370 WABASHA STREET N.

(Street)

ST. PAUL, MN 55102

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
09/16/2009

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)  
Chairman, President & CEO

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 Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V Amount or (D) Price   |   |  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 06/10/2009                           |  | G                              | V 100,000 D \$ 0  | 29,747.215  | D  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 06/10/2009                           |  | G                              | V 100,000 A \$ 0  | 100,000   | I  | By wife   |
| Common Stock                    | 08/04/2009                           |  | G                              | V 3,600 D \$ 0  | 96,400  | I  | By wife   |
| Common Stock                    | 09/16/2009                           |  | M                              | 85,295 A \$ 24.34   | 115,042.215   | D  |   |
| Common Stock                    | 09/16/2009                           |  | F(1)                           | 61,885 D \$ 46.715  | 53,157.215  | D  |   |

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Common Stock 5,005.405 <sup>(2)</sup> 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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SEC 1474 (9-02)

**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 Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4) |                 |       |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|-----------------|-------|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code V                         | (A)   | (D)  | Date Exercisable                                  | Expiration Date | Title |
| Common Stock                               | \$ 24.34 <sup>(3)</sup>                                | 09/16/2009                           |  | M                              | 85,295 <sup>(3)</sup>   | 12/05/2003 <sup>(3)</sup> 12/05/2012                     | Common Stock                                      |                 |       |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)       | \$ 46.715  | 09/16/2009                           |  | A                              | 61,885  | 09/16/2009 12/05/2012                                    | Common Stock                                      |                 |       |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address   | Relationships |           |                           |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|---------------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                   | Other |
| BAKER DOUGLAS M JR<br>ECOLAB INC.<br>370 WABASHA STREET N.<br>ST. PAUL, MN 55102 | X             |           | Chairman, President & CEO |       |

## Signatures

/s/ David F. Duvick, Attorney-in-Fact for Douglas M. Baker, Jr.

09/18/2009

        \*\*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).

(1) Reflects the reporting person's payment of the exercise price and withholding taxes for a stock option issued in accordance with Rule 16b-3 by delivering or withholding shares of Ecolab Common Stock.

(2) The reporting person indirectly holds 5,005.405 UNITS in the Ecolab Stock Fund of the Ecolab Savings Plan (401(k) Plan) as of August 31, 2009. Includes 18.218 UNITS acquired since the reporting person's last report. (The 5,005.405 UNITS are equivalent to approximately 9,358 SHARES of Common Stock.)

(3) Option granted under the Ecolab Inc. 2002 Stock Incentive Plan on December 5, 2002. The option was originally reported as covering 220,000 shares at an exercise price of \$48.68 but has been adjusted to reflect a stock split on June 6, 2003 and the subsequent exercise of 49,410 shares on June 13, 2007 and 85,295 shares on December 14, 2007. The option became exercisable, cumulatively, as to one-third of the total shares subject to the option 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.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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