ECOLAB INC Form 5 February 01, 2010

FORM 5

OMB APPROVAL

3235-0362

OMB

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

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

Number: January 31, Expires: 2005

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL Form 4 or Form OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

Estimated average burden hours per response... 1.0

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 1(b). Form 3 Holdings Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section Reported Form 4

Transactions Reported

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * BELL LAWRENCE T			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ECOLAB INC [ECL]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer				
(Last) ECOLAB INC STREET N.	(First)	(Middle)	3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended (Month/Day/Year) 12/31/2009	(Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner _X_ Officer (give title Other (specif below) below) General Counsel and Secretary				
	(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting (check applicable line)				

ST. PAUL, MNÂ 55102

X Form Filed by One Reporting Person Form Filed by More than One Reporting

(City)	(State) (Z	Zip) Table	e I - Non-Deri	vative Sec	curitie	s Acqui	ired, Disposed o	f, or Beneficial	ly 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. Securi Acquired Disposed (Instr. 3,	d (A) of (D) 4 and (A) or)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at end of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	12/11/2009	Â	G	415	D	\$0	103,343	D	Â
Common Stock	12/11/2009	Â	G	575	D	\$0	102,768	D	Â
Common Stock	12/11/2009	Â	G	575	D	\$ 0	102,193	D	Â
Common Stock	12/11/2009	Â	$G^{(1)}$	575	A	\$0	4,323	I	By daughter

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Common Stock	12/11/2009	Â	G(2)	575	A	\$0	4,431	I	By daughter
Common Stock	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	8,767.396 (3)	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 information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

SEC 2270 (9-02)

of

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)		ate	7. Titl Amou Under Secur (Instr.	int of rlying	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)
					(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	

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Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
BELL LAWRENCE T ECOLAB INC. 370 WABASHA STREET N. ST. PAUL, MN 55102	Â	Â	General Counsel and Secretary	Â			

Signatures

/s/ David F. Duvick, Attorney-in-Fact for Lawrence
T. Bell

**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) Transfer by reporting person to one of his daughters.
- (2) Transfer by reporting person to a second daughter.

Reporting Owners 2

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(3) The reporting person indirectly holds 8,767.396 UNITS in the Ecolab Stock Fund of the Ecolab Savings Plan (401(k) Plan) as of December 31, 2009. (The 8,767.396 UNITS are equivalent to approximately 16,384 SHARES of Common Stock.)

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space provided 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.