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February 22,	2011										
FORM 4 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANCE COMMISSION									OMB APPROVAL		
	UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549								OMB Number:	3235-0287	
Check th if no long subject to Section 1 Form 4 o Form 5	ger STATE 6. r	STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES							Expires: Estimated a burden hour response		
Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b). 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 I	Responses)										
1. Name and Address of Reporting Person <u>*</u> Meyer Michael L			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ECOLAB INC [ECL]					5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			
		() (¹)11)						(Check all applicable)			
(Last) (First) (Middle) ECOLAB INC., 370 WABASHA STREET N			3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/20/2011					Director 10% Owner X Officer (give title Other (specify below) below) Senior VP - Human Resources			
(Street)			4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)					 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting 			
SAINT PAU	JL, MN 55102							Person		porting	
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Tabl	le I - Non-	Derivative	Secu	rities Acqu	uired, Disposed of,	, or Beneficiall	y Owned	
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)2A. Deemed Execution Date, any (Month/Day/Year)			n Date, if	Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)				5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
_				Code V	7 Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	(Instr. 4)		
Common Stock	02/20/2011			F <u>(1)</u>	670	D	\$ 48.395	3,564	D		
Common Stock								71.982 (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. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)	5. onNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		ate	Amou Unde Secur	le and unt of rlying tities . 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Owne Follo Repo Trans (Instr
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships							
1	Director	10% Owner	Officer		Other			
Meyer Michael L ECOLAB INC. 370 WABASHA STREET N SAINT PAUL, MN 55102			Senior VP - Hu	man Resources				
Signatures								
/s/David F. Duvick, as Attorney Meyer	y-in-Fact	for Michael	L. 02	2/22/2011				

Explanation of Responses:

**Signature of Reporting Person

- * 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 minimum statutory tax obligations by withholding shares of Ecolab Common Stock incident to the vesting of a restricted stock award issued in accordance with Rule 16b-3.

Date

(2) Number of UNITS in the Ecolab Stock Fund of the Ecolab Savings Plan (401(k) Plan) as of January 31, 2011. (The 71.982 UNITS are the equivalent of approximtely 134 shares of the issuer's Common Stock.)

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.