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ECOLAB I Form 4 October 02,										
Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. SECURITIES SECURITIES NUMBERSHIP OF Section 16. SECURITIES NUMBERSHIP OF SECURITIES NUMBERSHIP OF SECURITIES NUMBERSHIP OF SECURITIES NUMBERSHIP OF SECURITIES NUMBERSHIP OF Section 16. SECURITIES NUMBERSHIP OF SECURITIES NUMBERSHIP SECURITIES NUMBERSHIP S										3235-0287 January 31, 2005 average
	Responses) Address of Reporting OFER JERRY A	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ECOLAB INC [ECL]					5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			
(Last) ECOLAB I STREET N	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 09/30/2008					(Check all applicable) _X_ Director 10% Owner Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)				
SAINT PA	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				
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Tab	le I - Non-	Dorivotivo	Socur		Person ired, Disposed of,	or Bonoficial	ly Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, any (Month/Day/Yea			3. Transacti Code	4. Securit omr Dispos (Instr. 3, 4	ies Ac ed of (4 and 5 (A)	quired (A) (D)	 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) 	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	09/30/2008			Code V A	Amount 182.46	or (D) A	Price \$ 0	(Instr. 3 and 4) 35,560.36	D	
Common Stock	09/30/2008			А	417.06	А	\$ 47.955	36,049.39 <u>(1)</u>	D	

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)	e 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		ate	7. Title a Amount o Underlyin Securities (Instr. 3 a	unt of rlying	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Nu Deriv Secu 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

10% Owner Officer Other

GRUNDHOFER JERRY A ECOLAB INC. 370 WABASHA STREET N SAINT PAUL, MN 55102

Signatures

/s/David F. Duvick, as Attorney-in-Fact for Jerry A. Grundhofer

**Signature of Reporting Person

Explanation of Responses:

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).

Director

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- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Includes 71.97 shares acquired pursuant to a dividend reinvestment feature of the Ecolab Inc. 2001 Non-Employee Director Stock Option and Deferred Compensation Plan.

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.

10/02/2008

Date