

ECOLAB INC

Form 4

December 07, 2007

FORM 4**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

Check this box
if no longer
subject to
Section 16.
Form 4 or
Form 5
obligations
may continue.
See Instruction
1(b).

**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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB
Number: 3235-0287
Expires: January 31,
2005
Estimated average
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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
BELL LAWRENCE T

(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)
12/05/2007

4. If Amendment, Date Original
Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

____ Director ____ 10% Owner
____X____ Officer (give title ____ Other (specify
below) below)

SVP, GC and Secretary

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check
Applicable Line)
____X____ 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)
Common Stock	03/08/2007		G	V 820 D \$ 0	106,348	D	
Common Stock	03/08/2007		G ⁽¹⁾	V 520 D \$ 0	105,828	D	
Common Stock	03/08/2007		G ⁽²⁾	V 520 D \$ 0	105,308	D	
Common Stock	03/08/2007		G ⁽¹⁾	V 520 A \$ 0	3,123	I	By Daughter
Common Stock	03/08/2007		G ⁽²⁾	V 520 A \$ 0	3,231	I	By Daughter

Common
Stock8,431.17 ⁽³⁾ IBy 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 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 Amount Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)			
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 49.42	12/05/2007		A		39,400		12/05/2008 ⁽⁴⁾	12/05/2017	Common Stock	39,400

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	SVP, GC and Secretary

Signatures

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

12/07/2007

**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).

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

Number of UNITS owned by the reporting person in the Ecolab Stock Fund of the Ecolab Savings Plan (401(k) Plan) as of October 31, 2007. Includes 215,352 UNITS acquired by the reporting person in the Ecolab Stock Fund of the Ecolab Savings Plan since the date of his last report. (The 8,431,170 UNITS are the equivalent of approximately 15,740 SHARES of the issuer's Common Stock.)

- (4) The option will be exercisable, on a cumulative basis, as to one-third of the option shares (excluding any fractional portion less than one share), 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; provided, however, that if a Change in Control (as that term is defined in the 2005 Ecolab Inc. Stock Incentive Plan) will occur, 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.

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