

Mason Phillip J  
Form 4  
May 13, 2011

# 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 \*  
Mason Phillip J

(Last) (First) (Middle)

ECOLAB INC., 370 WABASHA STREET NORTH

(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)  
05/11/2011

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 below) \_\_\_ Other (specify below)

President, EMEA Sector

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)	(A) or (D)	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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	Price		
Common Stock	05/11/2011		M		50,000	A \$ 29.29	54,008	D
Common Stock	05/11/2011		F(1)		36,284	D \$ 52.205	17,724	D
Common Stock	05/11/2011		M		10,800	A \$ 34.5	28,524	D
Common Stock	05/11/2011		F(1)		8,700	D \$ 52.205	19,824	D
Common Stock	05/11/2011		M		45,400	A \$ 34.075	65,224	D

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Common Stock 05/11/2011 F<sup>(1)</sup> 36,365 D \$ 52.205 28,859 D

Common Stock 588.661 <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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**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 of Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 29.29	05/11/2011		M	50,000	05/07/2005 <sup>(3)</sup> 05/07/2014	Common Stock	50,000
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 34.5	05/11/2011		M	10,800	12/09/2005 <sup>(3)</sup> 12/09/2014	Common Stock	10,800
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 34.075	05/11/2011		M	45,400	12/07/2006 <sup>(3)</sup> 12/07/2015	Common Stock	45,400

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other  
President, EMEA Sector

Mason Phillip J  
ECOLAB INC.  
370 WABASHA STREET NORTH  
ST. PAUL, MN 55102

## Signatures

/s/ David F. Duvick, Attorney-in-Fact for Phillip J.  
Mason

05/13/2011

\_\_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 withholding shares of Ecolab Common Stock.
- Number of UNITS in the Ecolab Stock Fund of the Ecolab Savings Plan (401(k) Plan) as of March 31, 2011. Includes 2.056 UNITS
- (2) acquired since the reporting person's last report. (The 588.661 UNITS are the equivalent of approximately 1,097 SHARES of the issuer's Common Stock.)
- The option became exercisable, on a cumulative basis, as to one-third of the option shares (excluding any fractional portion less than one
- (3) 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.

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.