Beck Christophe Form 3 September 28, 2012 FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549 OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: 3235-0104

INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 <u>*</u> Beck Christophe			2. Date of Event RequiringStatement(Month/Day/Year)	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ECOLAB INC [ECL]			
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	09/20/2012	4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer			5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)
370 WABASHA STREET NORTH				(Check	ek all applicable)		
SAINT P.	(Street) AUL, MNÂ	55102		Director 10% Owner Officer Other (give title below) (specify below) EVP and Regions President			6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Table I - N	Non-Derivati	ive Securiti	es Be	neficially Owned
1.Title of So (Instr. 4)	ecurity		2. Amount o Beneficially (Instr. 4)		3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nat Owne (Instr.	1
Common	Stock		2,575		D	Â	
Common Stock			1,047.985	(1)	Ι	By Ecolab Savings Plan	
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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.

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

SEC 1473 (7-02)

1. Title of Derivative	2. Date Exercisable and	3. Title and Amount of	4.	5.	6. Nature of Indirect
Security	Expiration Date	Securities Underlying	Conversion	Ownership	Beneficial
(Instr. 4)	(Month/Day/Year)	Derivative Security	or Exercise	Form of	Ownership
		(Instr. 4)	Price of	Derivative	(Instr. 5)

January 31,

2005

0.5

Expires:

response...

Estimated average burden hours per

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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	Derivative Security	Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	06/01/2008 <u>(2)</u>	06/01/2017	Common Stock	37,000	\$ 43.065	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	12/05/2008 <u>(3)</u>	12/05/2017	Common Stock	32,300	\$ 49.42	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	12/03/2009(4)	12/03/2018	Common Stock	45,900	\$ 35.63	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	12/02/2010 <u>(5)</u>	12/02/2019	Common Stock	23,500	\$ 45.665	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	12/01/2011 <u>(6)</u>	12/01/2020	Common Stock	25,100	\$ 48.055	D	Â
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	12/01/2012(7)	12/01/2021	Common Stock	30,700	\$ 55.595	D	Â

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
Beck Christophe 370 WABASHA STREET NORTH SAINT PAUL, MN 55102	Â	Â	EVP and Regions President	Â			
Signatures							
David F. Duvick, as Attorney-In-Fact for Christophe Beck			09/28/2012				

<u>**Signature of Reporting Person</u>

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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) Number of UNITS in the Ecolab Stock Fund of the Ecolab Savings Plan (401(k) Plan) as of September 20, 2012. (The 1,047.985 UNITS are the equivalent of approximately 1,948 shares of the issuer's Common Stock.)

Date

Option granted under the Ecolab Inc. 2002 Stock Incentive Plan on June 1, 2007. The option became exercisable, on a cumulative basis,(2) 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 option shares on the third anniversary of the date of grant.

Option granted under the Ecolab Inc. 2005 Stock Incentive Plan on December 5, 2007. The option became exercisable, on a cumulative(3) 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 option shares on the third anniversary of the date of grant.

Option granted under the Ecolab Inc. 2005 Stock Incentive Plan on December 3, 2008. The option became exercisable, on a cumulative(4) 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 option shares on the third anniversary of the date of grant.

(5)

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Option granted under the Ecolab Inc. 2005 Stock Incentive Plan on December 2, 2009. The option will become 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 option shares on the third anniversary of the date of grant.

Option granted under the Ecolab Inc. 2010 Stock Incentive Plan on December 1, 2010. The option will become exercisable, on a(6) 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 option shares on the third anniversary of the date of grant.

Option granted under the Ecolab Inc. 2010 Stock Incentive Plan on December 1, 2011. The option will become exercisable, on a
(7) 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 option 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.