

Beck Christophe  
 Form 3  
 September 28, 2012

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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**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 * |         | 2. Date of Event Requiring Statement | 3. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol |  |
| Â Beck Christophe                         |         | (Month/Day/Year)                     | ECOLAB INC [ECL]                                   |  |
| (Last)                                    | (First) | (Middle)                             | 09/20/2012   |  |
| 370 WABASHA STREET NORTH                  |         |                                      | 4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer   | 5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)                   |
| (Street)                                  |         |                                      | (Check all applicable)                             |  |
| SAINT PAUL, MN 55102                      |         |                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Director                  | <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner                                     |
| (City)                                    | (State) | (Zip)                                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer        | <input type="checkbox"/> Other   |
|   |         |                                      | (give title below)                                 | (specify below)  |
|   |         |                                      | EVP and Regions President                          | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)             |
|   |         |                                      |  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person |
|   |         |                                      |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person  |

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4) | 3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|---------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Common Stock                    | 2,575   | D  | Â   |
| Common Stock                    | 1,047.985 <sup>(1)</sup>                              | I  | By Ecolab Savings Plan                                |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly. SEC 1473 (7-02)

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

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

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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 <sup>(2)</sup> | 06/01/2017      | Common Stock | 37,000                     | \$ 43.065           | D   | Â |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) | 12/05/2008 <sup>(3)</sup> | 12/05/2017      | Common Stock | 32,300                     | \$ 49.42            | D   | Â |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) | 12/03/2009 <sup>(4)</sup> | 12/03/2018      | Common Stock | 45,900                     | \$ 35.63            | D   | Â |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) | 12/02/2010 <sup>(5)</sup> | 12/02/2019      | Common Stock | 23,500                     | \$ 45.665           | D   | Â |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) | 12/01/2011 <sup>(6)</sup> | 12/01/2020      | Common Stock | 25,100                     | \$ 48.055           | D   | Â |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy) | 12/01/2012 <sup>(7)</sup> | 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<br>370 WABASHA STREET NORTH<br>SAINT PAUL, MN 55102 | Â             | Â         | Â EVP and Regions President | Â     |

## Signatures

David F. Duvick, as Attorney-In-Fact for Christophe Beck

09/28/2012

\_\_Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## 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.)
 

Option granted under the Ecolab Inc. 2002 Stock Incentive Plan on June 1, 2007. The option became 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.
  - (2) Option granted under the Ecolab Inc. 2005 Stock Incentive Plan on December 5, 2007. The option became 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.
  - (3) Option granted under the Ecolab Inc. 2005 Stock Incentive Plan on December 3, 2008. The option became 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.
  - (4) Option granted under the Ecolab Inc. 2005 Stock Incentive Plan on December 3, 2008. The option became 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.
  - (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.

- (6) Option granted under the Ecolab Inc. 2010 Stock Incentive Plan on December 1, 2010. 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.

- (7) Option granted under the Ecolab Inc. 2010 Stock Incentive Plan on December 1, 2011. 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.

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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