HANDLEY THOMAS W

Form 4 June 08, 2012

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB Number: 3235-0287

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

Expires: January 31, 2005

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * HANDLEY THOMAS W			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	ECOLAB INC [ECL] 3. Date of Earliest Transaction	(Check all applicable)		
ECOLAB INC., 370 WABASHA STREET N.			(Month/Day/Year) 06/06/2012	Director 10% OwnerX_ Officer (give title Other (specify below) Sr.EVP&Pres. F&B and APLA		
	(Street)		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		
ST. PAUL, MN 55102				Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tab	le I - Non-l	Derivative	Secur	ities Acqui	red, Disposed of	, or Beneficial	ly Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. 4. Securities Acquired (A) Transactiomr Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8) (A) or			Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
			Code V	Amount	(D)	Price	(Instr. 3 and 4)		
Common Stock	06/06/2012		M	70,000	A	\$ 25.49	70,000	D	
Common Stock	06/06/2012		F <u>(1)</u>	45,088	D	\$ 63.905	24,912	D	
Common Stock							527.46 <u>(2)</u>	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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displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	` '			7. Title and Amount o Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)		
			Code V	and 5) (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Share	
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 25.49	06/06/2012	M	70,000	08/14/2004(3)	08/14/2013	Common Stock	70,000	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

HANDLEY THOMAS W ECOLAB INC. 370 WABASHA STREET N. ST. PAUL, MN 55102

Sr.EVP&Pres. F&B and APLA

Signatures

/s/ David F. Duvick, as Attorney-in-Fact for Thomas W. Handley

06/08/2012

**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 witholding taxes for a stock option issued in accordance with Rule 16b-3 by delivering or withholding shares of Ecolab common stock.
- Number of UNITS in the Ecolab Stock Fund of the Ecolab Savings Plan (401(k) Plan) as of April 30, 2012. Includes 3.43 UNITS (2) acquired since the reporting person's last report. (The 527.46 UNITS are the equivalent of approximately 981 shares of the issuer's Common Stock.)
- Option granted under the Ecolab Inc. 2002 Stock Incentive Plan. The option became exercisable, on a cumulative basis, as to one-third of (3) 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.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Reporting Owners 2

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