

Inchaustegui Roberto
 Form 4
 October 31, 2011

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Expires: January 31, 2005
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
 Inchaustegui Roberto

(Last) (First) (Middle)

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)
 10/28/2011

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

EVP-Global Specialty Sector

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

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)
			Code	V	Amount or Price		
Common Stock	10/28/2011		M		13,600 A \$ 34.5	D	
Common Stock	10/28/2011		M		13,500 A \$ 34.075	D	
Common Stock	10/28/2011		S		21,333 D \$ 55.0016	D	
Common Stock	10/28/2011		S		2,267 D \$ 55	D	
Common Stock					6.066 ⁽¹⁾	I	By Ecolab Savings

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 of Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 34.5	10/28/2011		M	13,600	12/09/2005 ⁽²⁾ 12/09/2014	Common Stock	13,600
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 34.075	10/28/2011		M	13,500	12/07/2006 ⁽²⁾ 12/07/2015	Common Stock	13,500

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Inchaustegui Roberto 370 WABASHA STREET NORTH ST. PAUL, MN 55102			EVP-Global Specialty Sector	

Signatures

David F. Duvick, as Attorney-in-Fact for Roberto
Inchaustegui

10/31/2011

__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) Number of UNITS in the Ecolab Stock Fund of the Ecolab Savings Plan (401(k) Plan) as of September 30, 2011. Includes 0.019 UNITS acquired since the reporting person's last report. (The 6.066 UNITS are the equivalent of approximately 11 SHARES of the issuer's Common Stock.)

(2) Options granted under the Ecolab Inc. 1997 Stock Incentive Plan. Each option became exercisable, on a cumulative basis, as to one-third of the option shares (excluding any fraction 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.

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.