**ECOLAB INC** Form 4 March 02, 2005

## FORM 4

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

**OMB APPROVAL OMB** 

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Check this box

**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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

See Instruction

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * SPOONER JOHN P			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ECOLAB INC [ECL]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  (Check all applicable)			
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction	(Check an applicable)			
			(Month/Day/Year)	Director 10% Owner			
ECOLAB INC., 370 WABASHA STREET N.			03/01/2005	_X_ Officer (give title Other (spec below)			
SIREEI IN.				President of International			
(Street)			4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check			
			Filed(Month/Day/Year)	Applicable Line)			
ST. PAUL, MN 55102				_X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person			

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tabl	le I - Non-I	Derivative	Secu	rities Acqu	ired, Disposed of	, or Beneficiall	y 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 Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)			ed of (D)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	(Instr. 4)	
Common Stock	03/01/2005		F	5,942 (1)	D	\$ 31.855	32,214	D	
Common Stock	03/01/2005		G	200	D	\$ 0	32,014	D	
Common Stock							2,680.699 (2)	I	By Ecolab Savings Plan

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form

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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	2.	3. Transaction Date		4.	5.	6. Date Exerc			le and	8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	(Month/Day/Year)	execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	ofNumber of Derivativ Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	<b>:</b>		Secur	rlying	Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	Deriv Secur Bene Owne Follo Repo Trans (Instr
				Code V	7 (A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		

## **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

SPOONER JOHN P ECOLAB INC. 370 WABASHA STREET N. ST. PAUL, MN 55102

President of International

## **Signatures**

/s/David F. Duvick, Attorney-in-Fact for John P. Spooner

03/02/2005

\*\*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 withholding of shares from the vesting of a restricted stock award to satisfy withholding taxes in accordance with Rule 16b-3.
- Number of UNITS owned by the reporting person in the Ecolab Stock Fund of the Ecolab Savings Plan (401(k) Plan) as of January 31, 2005. Includes 32.355 UNITS acquired since the reporting person's last report. (The 2,680.699 UNITS are the equivalent of approximately 5,018.841 SHARES of the issuer's Common Stock.)

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.

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