ECOLAB INC Form 4 May 16, 2006

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

January 31, Expires: 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 * HAMELMANN STEFAN

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

Symbol

ECOLAB INC [ECL]

05/12/2006

(Check all applicable)

(First) (Middle) (Last)

(State)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)

X Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify

HEBBELSTRASSE 13

4. If Amendment, Date Original

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

below)

(Street) Filed(Month/Day/Year)

Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

(A)

or

DUSSELDORF, 2M 40237

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed Security (Instr. 3)

(City)

(Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if (Month/Day/Year)

(Zip)

4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

5. Amount of 6. Ownership Securities Form: Direct Beneficially (D) or Indirect Beneficial Owned Following

(Instr. 4)

Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

7. Nature of

Ownership

(Instr. 4)

Indirect

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

1. Title of 6. Date Exercisable and 3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed 4. 5. Number Derivative Conversion (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transaction Derivative **Expiration Date** Security or Exercise Code Securities (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 3) Price of (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Acquired

7. Title and Amount of 8 **Underlying Securities** (Instr. 3 and 4)

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Derivative (A) or Security Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4,

and 5)

Code V (A) (D) Date Expiration Title

Exercisable Date

or Number

> of Shares

Amount

Director

Stock
Option \$ 37.905 05/12/2006 A 4,800 05/12/2016 Common Stock 4,800

(Right to Buy)

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

HAMELMANN STEFAN HEBBELSTRASSE 13 DUSSELDORF, 2M 40237

X

Signatures

/s/ David F. Duvick, as Attorney-in-Fact for Stefan Hamelmann

05/16/2006

**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).

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.

Reporting Owners 2