

ECOLAB INC  
Form POS AM  
August 12, 2002

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As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 12, 2002

Registration No. 333-79449

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**U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

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**POST-EFFECTIVE AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO  
FORM S-8**

REGISTRATION STATEMENT  
UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

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**ECOLAB INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware**

(State or Other Jurisdiction of  
Incorporation or Organization)

**41-0231510**

(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

**370 Wabasha Street North  
St. Paul, Minnesota**

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

**55102**

(Zip Code)

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**ECOLAB INC. 1997 STOCK INCENTIVE PLAN**

(Full Title of the Plan)

**Lawrence T. Bell, Esq.**

**Senior Vice President Law, General Counsel and Secretary**

**Ecolab Inc.**

**370 Wabasha Street North**

**St. Paul, Minnesota 55102**

**(651) 293-2981**

(Name, address and telephone number,  
including area code, of agent for service)

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On May 27, 1999, we filed our Registration Statement on Form S-8, File No. 333-79449, relating to 6,000,000 shares of our common stock (including associated preferred stock purchase rights) under the Ecolab Inc. 1997 Stock Incentive Plan (the "1997 Plan"). As of the date of this Post-Effective Amendment No. 1, 4,839,371 shares have been issued under the 1997 Plan, leaving an aggregate of 1,160,629 shares available for issuance. On August 9, 2002, we filed our Registration Statement on Form S-8, File No. 333-97927, relating to an aggregate of 7,100,000 shares under the Ecolab Inc. 2002 Stock Incentive Plan (the "2002 Plan"). The 7,100,000 shares included 6,000,000 shares under the

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2002 Plan, plus 1,100,000 (of the 1,160,629 remaining) shares under the 1997 Plan. We are filing this Post-Effective Amendment No. 1 to deregister the 1,100,000 shares under the 1997 Plan.

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### SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements of filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Post-Effective Amendment No. 1 to the Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of St. Paul, State of Minnesota, on August 12, 2002.

#### ECOLAB INC.

By: /s/ ALLAN L. SCHUMAN

Allan L. Schuman

*Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer*

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Post-Effective Amendment No. 1 to the Registration Statement has been signed on August 12, 2002 by the following persons in the capacities indicated.

Signature	Title
/s/ ALLAN S. SCHUMAN	
Allan L. Schuman	Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer (principal executive officer) and Director
/s/ STEVEN L. FRITZE	
Steven L. Fritze	Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (principal financial officer)
/s/ DANIEL J. SCHMECHEL	
Daniel J. Schmechel	Vice President and Controller (principal accounting officer)
/s/ TIMOTHY P. DORDELL	
	Directors

Timothy P. Dordell, as attorney-in-fact for Leslie S. Biller, Jerry A. Grundhofer, Stefan Hamelmann, James J. Howard, William L. Jews, Joel W. Johnson, Jochen Krautter, Ulrich Lehner, Jerry W. Levin and Robert L. Lumpkins

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### ECOLAB INC. REGISTRATION STATEMENT ON FORM S-8

#### INDEX TO EXHIBITS

Exhibit No.	Item	Method of Filing

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Exhibit No.	Item	Method of Filing
24.1	Powers of Attorney	Filed herewith electronically.

QuickLinks

SIGNATURES

INDEX TO EXHIBITS