JOHNSON JOEL W Form 4

Check this box

if no longer

subject to

Section 16.

Form 4 or

January 04, 2005 FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

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 * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading JOHNSON JOEL W Issuer Symbol ECOLAB INC [ECL] (Check all applicable) (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) X_ Director 10% Owner Other (specify Officer (give title HORMEL FOODS 12/31/2004 CORPORATION, 1 HORMEL **PLACE** (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

AUSTIN, MN 55912

(State)

(Zin)

(City)

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tabl	e 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. 4. Securities Acquired (Transaction Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8) (A) or			D) i)	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)		
Common Stock	12/31/2004		Code V A	Amount 177.63	(D)	Price \$ 0	21,285.95	D			
Common Stock	12/31/2004		A	390.79	A	\$ 35.185	21,721.57 (1)	D			

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

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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. T	5.	6. Date Exer		7. Titl		8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if		ionNumber	Expiration D		Amou		Derivative	Deriv
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day	(Year)	Under	, ,	Security	Secui
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivativ	e		Securi	ities	(Instr. 5)	Bene
	Derivative				Securities	3		(Instr.	3 and 4)		Owne
	Security				Acquired						Follo
	•				(A) or						Repo
					Disposed						Trans
					of (D)						(Instr
					(Instr. 3,						(211512
					4, and 5)						
					4, and 3)						
									Amount		
						.	.		or		
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title 1	Number		
									of		
				Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Relationships Reporting Owner Name / Address 10% Owner Officer Other Director

JOHNSON JOEL W HORMEL FOODS CORPORATION 1 HORMEL PLACE AUSTIN, MN 55912

X

Signatures

/s/ David F. Duvick, as Attorney-in-Fact for Joel W. 01/04/2005 Johnson

> **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).
- Includes 44.83 shares acquired pursuant to a dividend reinvestment feature of the Ecolab Inc. 2001 Non-Employee Director Stock Option and Deferred Compensation Plan.

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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