

PRESS RELEASES

Apr 8, 2003

Ecolab Chairman and CEO Al Schuman To Receive National Honor for Contributions to Hospitality Industry

ST. PAUL, Minn., Apr 8, 2003 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- Ecolab's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Allan L. Schuman, a 46-year veteran of the hospitality industry, will be honored for his industry leadership during the 84th annual National Restaurant Association Restaurant, Hotel-Motel Show to be held May 17-20 in Chicago.

The National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation (NRAEF) is honoring Schuman with the Thad and Alice Eure Ambassador of Hospitality Award, the highest distinction awarded by the NRAEF for extraordinary achievement, exemplary career leadership and substantial contributions to education in the hospitality, restaurant and foodservice industry.

This is only the second time in the award's 17-year history that an industry supplier has received the honor. The award is named after the late Thad Eure Jr., founder of the Angus Barn in Raleigh, N.C., and past president of the National Restaurant Association, and Alice Eure, Thad's wife and lifelong business partner.

"Al Schuman has continually demonstrated his firm commitment to promoting our industry through mentoring and education," said Mary M. Adolf, president and COO of the NRAEF. "We are privileged to present him with our highest honor."

Schuman will receive the award on Saturday, May 17, at the Salute to Excellence (SM) Awards Gala and Banquet, which honors the outstanding achievements of several exceptional industry leaders as well as the country's top educators and talented restaurant and foodservice industry students.

Ecolab's Chairman and CEO since 1995, Schuman rose through the ranks in the company, having started his career as a junior salesman in 1957. He has held a number of leadership roles within the industry, presently serving on the board of directors of the Culinary Institute of America, the Soap and Detergent Association, and the National Association of Manufacturers. He is a past board member of the International Foodservice Manufacturers Association, the International Foodservice Executives Association, the Chain Operators Exchange and the International Sanitary Supply Association.

Schuman was also recently honored as the 2002 Hospitality Executive of the Year by the Penn State Hotel and Restaurant Society, and as the 2001 Industrial Chemical CEO of the Year by global research and marketing firm Frost & Sullivan.

Founded in 1919, the National Restaurant Association is the leading business association for the restaurant industry. Together with the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation, the association's mission is to represent, educate and promote a rapidly growing industry that is comprised of 870,000 restaurant and foodservice outlets employing 11.7 million people.

With sales of \$3.4 billion, Ecolab is the leading global developer and marketer of premium cleaning, sanitizing, pest elimination, maintenance and repair products for the hospitality, foodservice, institutional and industrial markets. Ecolab shares are traded on the New York Stock Exchange and the Pacific Exchange under the symbol ECL.

Ecolab news releases and other investor information are available on the Internet at www.ecolab.com.

NOTE TO EDITORS: CEO's photo and bio are available upon request.

Ecolab, St. Paul

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