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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d)
of The Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): November 17, 2026

Ecovyst Inc.

Commission File Number: 001-38221

Delaware	**81-3406833**
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)	**(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)**
600 Lee Road, Suite 200 **Wayne, Pennsylvania**	**19087**
(Address of principal executive offices)	**(Zip Code)**

(484) 617-1200
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

☐ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

☐ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading symbol	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common stock, par value $0.01 per share	ECVT	New York Stock Exchange

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company ☐

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. ☐

Item 5.02. Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

On November 18, 2026, the Board of Directors (the "Board") of Ecovyst Inc. (the "Company") announced that Kurt J. Bitting ceased serving as the Company's President and Chief Executive Officer effective as of November 17, 2026. The Board appointed current Company director David A. Bradley as Interim Chief Executive Officer of the Company, effective November 17, 2026, to serve until the appointment of a permanent Chief Executive Officer. The Board has initiated a comprehensive search process to identify a permanent successor for Mr. Bitting.

In connection with Mr. Bitting's separation, Mr. Bitting resigned from the Board, effective November 17, 2026. Mr. Bitting's resignation was not the result of any disagreement related to any matter involving the Company's operations, policies or practices. In connection with Mr. Bitting's resignation, the size of the Board will be reduced by one director such that the Board consists of seven directors, effective November 17, 2026.

Bitting Separation Agreement

In connection with the termination of Mr. Bitting's employment, the Company and Mr. Bitting expect to enter into a Separation Agreement and General Release (the "Separation Agreement") to govern the terms of his separation from employment. In connection with his separation, which is considered a termination without cause under the Severance Agreement dated December 16, 2022, between Mr. Bitting and Ecovyst Catalyst Technologies LLC (the "Severance Agreement"), it is expected that Mr. Bitting will receive the severance benefits he is entitled to for such a termination under this agreement. Under the Severance Agreement, subject to his execution of a release of claims and compliance with his restrictive covenants, Mr. Bitting is eligible to receive: (i) his base salary and target annual incentive bonus for a two-year period following termination, paid in equal installments over such two-year period in accordance with the normal payroll practices of the Company; (ii) a pro rata amount of the annual incentive bonus that would have been payable for the year of termination based on the number of days he was employed during the calendar year and subject to the Company's achievement of applicable performance goals, which amount will be paid in a lump sum at the time annual bonuses under the Ecovyst Incentive Plan are normally paid; and (iii) continuation of health benefits at active employee rates for 24 months (or until he otherwise becomes eligible for substantially comparable health benefits as a result of commencing new employment) through a Company subsidy of COBRA continuation coverage.

Under the terms of his performance-based stock unit ("PSU") awards, Mr. Bitting's PSUs will remain outstanding in accordance with their existing terms, with a pro rata portion eligible to vest based on actual performance.

Pursuant to the Separation Agreement, Mr. Bitting is expected to serve as a consultant to the Company on an as-needed basis to assist with an orderly transition of his duties and responsibilities through February 5, 2027. In exchange for providing consulting services, Mr. Bitting's outstanding time-based restricted stock units will continue to vest in accordance with their terms during the period in which such Mr. Bitting provides consulting services.

Bradley Letter Agreement

The Company has entered into a letter agreement with current Company director David A. Bradley (the "Letter Agreement"), pursuant to which he will serve as Interim Chief Executive Officer of the Company, effective November 17, 2026, until the appointment of a permanent Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Bradley will receive an annual base salary at a rate of $1,100,000 per year, and a grant of restricted stock units ("CEO RSUs") with a grant date fair value of $2,000,000 under the Company's annual long-term incentive program. The CEO RSUs will vest upon the earlier of the commencement of employment of a permanent Chief Executive Officer of the Company and the first anniversary of the date of Mr. Bradley's appointment, subject to his continued service through such date. While Mr. Bradley is serving as Interim Chief Executive Officer, he will not receive separate compensation for his service as a director of the Company, provided, however, that following his service as Interim Chief Executive Officer and subject to his continued service as a director of the Company, he will again become eligible to receive compensation for future service on the Board. Further, following termination of his service as Interim Chief Executive Officer, through November 2028, Mr. Bradley will remain eligible to participate in the Company's benefit plans at no cost to him or the Company will reimburse premiums for substantially similar coverage, provided that such subsidy or reimbursement will cease if he becomes entitled to benefits from a new employer.

Mr. Bradley, age 55, has been a director of the Company since 2022. Mr. Bradley previously served as the President and Chief Executive Officer and member of the board of directors of SI Group from March 2019 to October 2026. Prior to joining SI Group, Mr. Bradley served as President and Chief Executive Officer and member of the board of directors of Nexeo Solutions from March 2011 until February 2019. Prior to that, Mr. Bradley spent seven years at Kraton Corporation, where he held several executive positions, including Chief Operating Officer, Vice President of Global Operations, and Vice President of Business Transformation. Since 2019, he also has been a member of the board of directors of South Texas Truck Centers LLP. There is no arrangement or understanding between Mr. Bradley and any other person pursuant to which Mr. Bradley was appointed as an officer of the Company. There are no family relationships between Mr. Bradley and any director or officer of the Company. Mr. Bradley has no material direct or indirect interest in a related party transaction that requires disclosure.

Committee Composition

In connection with the appointment of Mr. Bradley as Interim Chief Executive Officer, the Board appointed Kevin Fogarty and Sarah Lorance to serve on the Compensation Committee, with Anna C. Catalano to serve as Chair of the Compensation Committee. The Board also appointed Ms. Catalano and Bryan K. Brown to serve on the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, with Don Althoff to serve as Chair of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. In addition, the Board appointed Mr. Althoff and Patti Humble to serve on the Health, Safety, Environment & Security Committee, with Mr. Bradley to serve as Chair of the Health, Safety, Environment & Security Committee.

The foregoing summaries are not complete and are qualified in their entirety by reference to the full text of the Separation Agreement and the Letter Agreement. The Company intends to file copies of the Separation Agreement and the Letter Agreement with the Securities and Exchange Commission as exhibits to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2026.

Item 7.01. Regulation FD Disclosure.

On November 18, 2026, the Company issued a press release announcing the foregoing executive leadership changes. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated by reference herein. The information contained in this Item and in Exhibit 99.1 is being furnished and shall not be deemed "filed" for any purpose, and shall not be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, regardless of any general incorporation language in any such filing.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

Exhibit No.	Description
99.1	Press Release dated November 18, 2026
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document)

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Date: November 18, 2026

Ecovyst Inc.

By: /s/ Joseph S. Koscinski
Name: Joseph S. Koscinski
Title: Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer, General Counsel and Secretary

Exhibit 99.1



Ecovyst Announces Chief Executive Officer Transition and Reaffirms Full-Year 2026 Guidance.

WAYNE, PA, November 18, 2026 — Ecovyst Inc. (NYSE: ECVT) ("Ecovyst" or the "Company"), a leading provider of regenerated sulfuric acid, virgin sulfuric acid, and sulfur dioxide and related derivatives, today announced that the Board of Directors of the Company has appointed current director David A. Bradley as Interim Chief Executive Officer effective November 17, 2026. Mr. Bradley replaces Kurt J. Bitting, who will be departing the Company.

"David is a respected and skillful chemical industry veteran, and we believe his experience in this sector will serve the Company and its stockholders well as Ecovyst pursues its strategic growth plans," said Kevin M. Fogarty, Ecovyst's Chairman of the Board of Directors. "The Board believes that David will further accelerate the execution of our strategic objectives, with an eye toward generating additional stockholder value while we undertake a comprehensive search process to identify a permanent Chief Executive Officer for the Company. On behalf of our Board of Directors and the management team, I also want to thank Kurt for his hard work and dedication on behalf of the Company and for his many contributions to Ecovyst. We wish Kurt all the best in the future," Mr. Fogarty said.

Mr. Bradley, 55, has been a director of the Company since 2022. Mr. Bradley previously served as the President and Chief Executive Officer and member of the board of directors of SI Group from March 2019 to October 2026. Prior to joining SI Group, Mr. Bradley served as President and Chief Executive Officer and member of the board of directors of Nexeo Solutions from March 2011 until February 2019. Prior to that, Mr. Bradley spent seven years at Kraton Corporation, where he held several executive positions, including Chief Operating Officer, Vice President of Global Operations, and Vice President of Business Transformation. Since 2019, he also has been a member of the board of directors of South Texas Truck Centers LLP.

It is expected that Mr. Bitting will continue as a consultant to the Company until February 5, 2027 in order to provide for a smooth transition of his prior duties to Mr. Bradley.

Fourth Quarter and Full-Year 2026 Outlook

Ecovyst today reaffirmed the financial guidance for the fourth quarter and full-year 2026 that it provided on November 5, 2026 in its third quarter earnings results and press release.

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About Ecovyst Inc.

Ecovyst Inc. and subsidiaries is a leading provider of regenerated sulfuric acid, virgin sulfuric acid, and sulfur dioxide and related derivatives essential to our customers' operations and processes.

Our platform of virgin sulfuric acid products, regenerated sulfuric acid and related derivatives serve a wide range of industrial applications. We are a leading provider of regenerated sulfuric acid to the North American refining industry for the production of alkylate, an essential gasoline component for lowering vapor pressure and increasing octane to meet stringent gasoline specifications and fuel efficiency standards. We are a leading North American producer of high quality and high strength virgin sulfuric acid for industrial and mining applications. Through our Calabrian business, we are also a leading producer of sulfur dioxide and related derivatives in North America, serving key end uses including mining, water treatment and specialty chemical production. We also provide chemical waste handling and treatment services, as well as ex-situ catalyst activation services for the refining and petrochemical industry.

For more information, see our website at https://www.ecovyst.com.

Note on Forward-Looking Statements

Some of the information contained in this press release constitutes "forward-looking statements." Forward-looking statements can be identified by words such as "anticipates," "intends," "plans," "seeks," "believes," "estimates," "expects," "projects" and similar references to future periods. Forward-looking statements are based on our current expectations and assumptions regarding our business, the economy and other future conditions. Because forward-looking statements relate to the future, they are subject to inherent uncertainties, risks and changes in circumstances that are difficult to predict. Examples of forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements regarding our leadership transition, the execution of our strategic objectives and growth plans, the generation of stockholder value and our fourth quarter and full-year financial guidance. Our actual results may differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements. We caution you, therefore, against placing any undue reliance on any of these forward-looking statements. They are neither statements of historical fact nor guarantees or assurances of future performance. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, regional, national or global political, economic, business, competitive, market and regulatory conditions, including the enactment, schedule and impact of tariffs and trade disputes, currency exchange rates, local business risks in different countries as a result of being a multinational business, military conflicts, the effects of inflation, our ability to successfully integrate the Calabrian sulfur dioxide and sulfur derivatives business into our business and realize the benefits of that acquisition and other factors, including those described in the sections titled "Risk Factors" and "Management's Discussion & Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" in our filings with the SEC, which are available on the SEC's website at www.sec.gov. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this release. Factors or events that could cause our actual results to differ may emerge from time to time, and it is not possible for us to predict all of them. We undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future developments or otherwise, except as may be required by applicable law.