

ASHLAND INC.
Form 4
December 17, 2012

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
OBRIEN JAMES J /KY

(Last) (First) (Middle)
50 E. RIVERCENTER BOULEVARD
(Street)

COVINGTON, KY 41012-0391

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
ASHLAND INC. [ASH]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
12/14/2012

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
Chief Executive Officer

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
____ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table 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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	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)
			Code	V Amount (A) or (D) Price			
Common Stock	12/07/2012		G ⁽¹⁾	V 130,603 D \$ 0 0		D	
Common Stock	12/07/2012		G ⁽²⁾	V 130,603 A \$ 0 130,603		I	By Trust for Child ⁽²⁾
Common Stock					3,141 ⁽³⁾	I	401(k)
Common Stock					2,655 ⁽⁴⁾	I	Lesop

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

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(9-02)

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)				
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
Common Stock Units	\$ 0 ⁽⁵⁾	12/14/2012		J ⁽⁶⁾		381		⁽⁷⁾	⁽⁷⁾	Common Stock	381	\$ 75.7

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
OBRIEN JAMES J /KY 50 E. RIVERCENTER BOULEVARD COVINGTON, KY 41012-0391			Chief Executive Officer	

Signatures

/s/ David A. Rines,
Attorney-in-Fact
12/17/2012

**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).
- (1) This transaction involved a gift of securities by the reporting person to a trust established for the benefit of the reporting person's child, who shares the reporting person's household.
 - (2) These shares are held in a trust for the benefit of the reporting person's child. The reporting person's spouse is trustee of the trust.
 - (3) Based on Employee Savings Plan information as of 12-13-12, the latest date for which such information is reasonably available.
 - (4) Shares accrued under Ashland's Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan as of 12-13-12.
 - (5) 1-for-1

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- Common Stock Units acquired pursuant to Ashland's Deferred Compensation Plan (the "Plan") as of 12-14-12, and exempt under Rule
- (6) 16b-3(d). (One (1) Common Stock Unit in the Deferred Compensation Plan is the equivalent of one (1) share of Ashland Common Stock.)
 - (7) Subject to any deferral election on timing of distribution by the reporting person under the Plan, the Common Stock Units are payable in Common Stock upon the reporting person's in-service distribution election, retirement or other termination.

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.