ASHLAND INC. Form 4

November 24, 2008

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

January 31, 2005

0.5

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OMB APPROVAL

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

Check this box

if no longer

subject to

Section 16.

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 * OBRIEN JAMES J/KY

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

ASHLAND INC. [ASH]

(Check all applicable)

Chief Executive Officer

(First) (Middle) (Last)

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

Director 10% Owner Other (specify

50 E. RIVERCENTER

11/20/2008

X_ Officer (give title below)

BOULEVARD

Security

(Instr. 3)

4. If Amendment, Date Original

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

(Street)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

Applicable Line)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

Owned

Form filed by More than One Reporting

(I)

(Instr. 4)

Person

COVINGTON, KY 41012-0391

(City) 1. Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed

(State)

(Month/Day/Year)

(Zip)

3. Execution Date, if

4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or

(A)

Disposed of (D)

(Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial

Ownership

(Instr. 4)

(Instr. 8)

Code

Following Reported Transaction(s)

(Instr. 3 and 4)

Code V Amount (D) Price

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

(Month/Day/Year)

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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

1. Title of 3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed 4. 5. Number of 6. Date Exercisable and 7. Title and Amou Derivative Conversion (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if **Transaction**Derivative Expiration Date Underlying Secur Security or Exercise Code Securities (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 3 and 4) any

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(Instr. 3) Price of (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Acquired (A) or Derivative Disposed of (D) Security (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)

> Expiration Title (D) Date Exercisable Date

Am

Nui Sha

Stock

Common Appreciation \$ 10.72 11/20/2008 $A^{(1)}$ 250,000 11/20/2009 12/20/2018 25 Stock

Code V

Right

Reporting Owners

Relationships Reporting Owner Name / Address

> 10% Owner Officer Other Director

OBRIEN JAMES J/KY 50 E. RIVERCENTER BOULEVARD COVINGTON, KY 41012-0391

Chief Executive Officer

(A)

Signatures

David B. Mattingly, 11/24/2008 Attorney-in-Fact

**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).
- Stock Appreciation Right granted pursuant to the 2006 Ashland Inc. Incentive Plan which vests in three annual installments: 50% after the 1st year, the next 25% the 2nd year and the remaining 25% the 3rd year.

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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