

MITCHELL SAMUEL J  
 Form 4  
 December 06, 2011

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
 Expires: January 31, 2015  
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**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 \*  
 MITCHELL SAMUEL J

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 3499 BLAZER PARKWAY  
 (Street)

LEXINGTON, KY 40509

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 12/02/2011

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 \_\_\_X\_\_\_ Officer (give title below) \_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
 Senior Vice President

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)  
 \_\_\_X\_\_\_ 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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D) Code V Amount Price                                    |   |  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    | 12/02/2011                           |  | A <sup>(1)</sup>               | 9,572 A \$ 0  | 9,790   | D  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    | 12/02/2011                           |  | F <sup>(2)</sup>               | 3,370 D \$ 55.56  | 6,420 <sup>(3)</sup>  | D  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 1,807 <sup>(4)</sup>  | I  | 401(k)                            |

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control**

SEC 1474 (9-02)

number.

**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 Security (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Stock Appreciation Right                   | \$ 55.56   | 12/02/2011                           |  | A <sup>(5)</sup>               | 9,700   | 12/02/2012 <sup>(5)</sup> 01/02/2022                     | Common Stock 9,700  |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                  | Relationships |           |                       |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|-----------------------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer               | Other |
| MITCHELL SAMUEL J<br>3499 BLAZER PARKWAY<br>LEXINGTON, KY 40509 |               |           | Senior Vice President |       |

## Signatures

/s/ David A. Rines,  
Attorney-in-Fact  
Date: 12/06/2011

\*\*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) Ashland Common Stock acquired upon settlement of LTIP award pursuant to the 2006 Ashland Inc. Incentive Plan and exempt under Rule 16b-3(d).
- (2) Payment of tax liability by withholding of securities incident to the settlement of LTIP award referenced in footnote 1.
- (3) 2 of these shares are held in the dividend reinvestment plan administered by Ashland's transfer agent.
- (4) Based on Employee Savings Plan information as of 12-02-11, the latest date for which such information is reasonably available.
- (5) Stock Appreciation Right granted pursuant to the 2011 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.