

HERCULES INC  
Form 4  
November 17, 2008

**FORM 4**

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

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

## OMB APPROVAL

OMB  
Number: 3235-0287  
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2005  
Estimated average  
burden hours per  
response... 0.5

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
**SHEARS STUART C**

(Last) (First) (Middle)

**HERCULES PLAZA, 1313 N.  
MARKET STREET**

(Street)

**WILMINGTON, DE 19894-0001**

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading  
Symbol

**HERCULES INC [HPC]**

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

**11/13/2008**

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 \_\_\_\_ Other (specify  
below) below)

VP & Treasurer

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock	11/13/2008		D		45,898	D	<u>11</u> 0

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  
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number.**

SEC 1474  
(9-02)

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

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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)	Amount or Number of Shares
				Code V (A) (D)		Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title	
Stock Options	\$ 37.5625	11/13/2008		D	3,500	11/04/2008 05/04/2009	Common Stock	3,500
Stock Options	\$ 17.25	11/13/2008		D	13,000	02/18/2003 02/18/2010	Common Stock	13,000

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
	Director    10% Owner    Officer    Other

SHEARS STUART C  
HERCULES PLAZA  
1313 N. MARKET STREET  
WILMINGTON, DE 19894-0001

VP & Treasurer

## Signatures

Israel J. Floyd, Acting as Attorney in Fact for Stuart C.  
Shears

11/17/2008

\*\*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) Disposed of pursuant to the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of July 10, 2008, among Ashland Inc. ("Ashland"), Ashland Sub One, Inc. and Hercules Incorporated ("Hercules") in exchange for \$18.60 in cash per share of Hercules common stock, 0.0930 of a share of Ashland common stock, having a market value of \$1.6647 per share on the effective date of the merger, per share of Hercules common stock and cash in lieu of fractional shares of Ashland common stock.
- (2) This option was assumed by Ashland in the merger and replaced with an option to purchase 3,437 shares of Ashland common stock for \$38.25 per share.

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.