

ASHLAND INC.

Form 4

December 07, 2006

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
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(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)

12/06/2006

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)

Chief Executive Officer

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	12/06/2006		M		106,884	A	\$ 23.87	112,224 D
Common Stock	12/06/2006		S		106,884	D	\$ 66.5702	5,340 D
Common Stock	12/06/2006		I ⁽¹⁾		1,051	D	\$ 66.87	0 I 401(K)
Common Stock								3,871 ⁽²⁾ I LESOP

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

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SEC 1474
(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)			
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount Number Shares
Common Stock Units	\$ 0	12/06/2006		I ⁽³⁾			11,213	⁽³⁾	⁽³⁾	Common Stock	11,213
Stock Options (Right to buy)	\$ 23.87	12/06/2006		M ⁽⁴⁾			106,884	09/18/2004	10/18/2013	Common Stock	106,884

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

David B. Mattingly,
Attorney-in-Fact 12/07/2006

 **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).

(2) Shares accrued under Ashland's Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan as of 12-6-2006.

(4) Employee stock option (represents a right to buy Ashland Common Stock) granted pursuant to Ashland's Stock 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. The employee stock option includes a tax withholding feature pursuant to the plan.

(3) Intraplan transfer in Ashland's Deferred Compensation Plan.

(1) Intraplan transfer in Ashland's Employee Savings Plan.

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Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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