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## **Valvoline™ expands Career Tech Motor Oil Education Program to colleges with donation of nearly \$100,000 of motor oil to 54 schools and universities**

### **Gift of Valvoline NextGen™ motor oil will help drive interest in automotive technology classes and train next generation of technicians**

Lexington, Ky. - Valvoline, a brand of Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH), announced it is expanding its successful Career Tech Motor Oil Education Program to colleges and universities to help drive student interest in automotive technology careers. It kicked off the announcement by donating more than 7,500 cases of Valvoline NextGen motor oil - valued at approximately \$100,000 - to 54 schools and colleges.

"The oil donation makes it possible for all students to work in the shop; learning the proper method to change oil and why," said Terry Jackman, instructor at Cincinnati Job Corps in Cincinnati, OH. "Everyone gets to participate and the impact is enormous. The students learn the myths about oil from an excellent resource and what different oils can do to prolong the life of automobiles."

Participating high schools and colleges will use the motor oil in auto technology classes to help train students as they perform oil changes on vehicles serviced through the schools. Many of the schools offer oil changes to teachers, non-profits and others in the community either for free or at very minimal cost. The oil donations complement the motor oil curriculum and education materials that Valvoline provides.

"The impact of the Valvoline Career Tech Motor Oil Education Program gives my students the opportunity to earn certificates and improve their resumes and applications," explained Michelle Beck, automotive teacher at Apalachee High School in Winder, GA. "The program provides resources that help me as a classroom educator and lets my students see that people care about what they are learning. It bridges the gap between education and industry, and creates a true partnership that makes learning real."

"The Valvoline Career Tech Program provides a strong foundation for students to learn about motor oil and to help train the next generation of automotive technicians," said Heidi Matheys, Valvoline's vice president of global brands. "We are thrilled to help students gain hands-on experience that often can help pave the way to a career in the auto maintenance industry."

Since Valvoline launched the Career Tech Motor Oil Education Program four years ago, more than 4,000 schools and nearly 350,000 students have participated in the popular program.

#### **About Valvoline**

Valvoline, a brand of Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH), has been serving American motorists longer than any other motor oil. In addition to commercial and industrial lubricants, the Valvoline family of products includes Eagle One™ appearance products, Car Brite™ car restoration products, Zerex™ antifreeze, SynPower™ performance products, MaxLife™ products create higher-mileage engines, and NextGen™ motor oil created with 50 percent recycled, ~~refined~~ refined oil. With nearly 900 locations throughout the United States, Valvoline Instant Oil Change<sup>SM</sup> is a leader in serving the quick lube market.

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<sup>SM</sup>Service mark, Ashland or its subsidiaries, registered in various countries

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:**

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