FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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

EMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

	nd Address of CKI KATI	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ASHLAND INC [ASH]								(Ch	eck all appl X Direct	ationship of Reportii k all applicable) Director		10% Ov	vner					
	AUTOMO	TIVE INC.	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/31/2004											Officer (give title below)		Other (speci below)			
(Street) NOVI	NOVI MI 48377				4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)									Line	ndividual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable) X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person					
(City)	(S		(Zip)	Di	4:					D:-		-f F		<i>6</i> - : - 1						
1. Title of	Table I - Non-Deriv Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transpate (Month)								3. Trans	3. 4. Secur Transaction Dispose Code (Instr. 5)		rities Acquired (A) or ed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and		5. Amount of		6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)		7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)		
Restricted	d Stock														1,0	000(1)	D			
		Т	able II - De (e.									, or Be			Owned					
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Da if any (Month/Day/\	ate, Ti	4. Transactior Code (Instr. 8)		n of		6. Date Ex Expiration (Month/Da	Date		Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Secu (Instr. 3 and 4)		curity	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s (Instr. 4)	y	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				С	ode	v	(A)		Date Exercisab		epiration ate	Title	or Nu of	mber ares						
Common Stock	\$0 ⁽²⁾	12/31/2004		J	J ⁽³⁾		330		(3)		(3)	Commor Stock	3	330	\$58.38	608		D		

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. Represents shares of Restricted Common Stock acquired pursuant to Ashland's stock incentive plans as approved by the shareholders and exempt pursuant to Rule 16b-3.
- 3. Common Stock Units acquired pursuant to Ashland's Deferred Compensation Plan for Non-Employee Directors as of 12-31-04, payable in cash or stock upon termination of service and exempt under Rule 16b-3. (One (1) Common Stock Unit in the Deferred Compensation Plan for Non-Employee Directors is the equivalent of one (1) share of Ashland Common Stock)

01/03/2005 M. Craig Hall

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

- * 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).

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

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 Number.