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Ashland to introduce game-changing OnGuard™ controller for superior water and process treatment automation at the International Water Conference

New "intelligent" chemical feed and control system provides performance-based and knowledge-based control of specialty chemical applications

Wilmington, Del. - Plant managers and engineers are constantly looking for innovative and cost-effective solutions to increase productivity and system reliability while reducing overall operating costs. Ashland Water Technologies, a commercial unit of Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH), will introduce its new OnGuard™ controller at the International Water Conference in Orlando, Florida, November 17-20, 2013. This first-to-market technology provides a full range of performance-based and knowledge-based control, making it possible to automate even the most demanding water or process treatment application.

Ashland's customer advantage - in-depth water and process capabilities

For more than 50 years, plant engineers and operations personnel have relied on Ashland's boiler, cooling and water treatment chemistries to deliver reliable, cost-effective programs. With the introduction of the OnGuard™ controller, Ashland now provides unprecedented program automation and improved system control for customers' water and process treatment applications.

The OnGuard™ controller has a powerful co-processor that uses proprietary software to perform complex calculations. OnGuard™ controller provides incredible flexibility since it can be configured to virtually any key performance indicator or key operating indicator for a particular facility. This allows Ashland customers to fully customize and automate their water or process treatment program while maximizing benefits such as reduced water, energy or chemical consumption.

"It's a truly intelligent machine, capable of learning about a plant's unique operational environment and then implementing the most effective corrective actions," said Glen Bowen, platform launch manager, Industrial Water Treatment, Ashland Water Technologies.

Ashland's current OnGuard™ portfolio includes OnGuard™ M2s, OnGuard™ Tracker, OnGuard™ 3S, OnGuard™ XD and other technologies that provide 24/7 monitoring and surveillance of water treatment or process systems. OnGuard systems can run as stand-alone systems or as part of a fully integrated solution.

About Ashland Water Technologies

Ashland Water Technologies is a leading global producer of papermaking chemicals and a leading specialty chemicals supplier to the pulp, paper, food and beverage, chemical processing, refining, petrochemical, mining and municipal markets. Its process, utility and functional chemistries are used to improve operational efficiencies, enhance product quality, protect plant assets and help ensure environmental compliance.

About Ashland Inc.

In more than 100 countries, the people of Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH) provide the specialty chemicals, technologies and insights to help customers create new and improved products for today and sustainable solutions for tomorrow. Our chemistry is at work every day in a wide variety of markets and applications, including architectural coatings, automotive, construction, energy, food and beverage, personal care, pharmaceutical, tissue and towel, and water treatment. Visit ashland.com to see the innovations we offer through our four commercial units - Ashland Specialty Ingredients, Ashland Water Technologies, Ashland Performance Materials and Ashland Consumer Markets.

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