

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person

Chellgren, Paul W.  
  
 1000 Ashland Drive  
 Russell, KY 41169

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

Ashland Inc.  
 ASH

3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person (Voluntary)

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4. Statement for Month/Year

December 31, 1997

5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)

6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)

( ) Director ( ) 10% Owner (X) Officer (give title below) ( ) Other  
 (specify below)  
 Chief Executive Officer

7. 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	2. Transaction Date	3. Code	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D)		5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Month	6. Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership	
			Amount	A/D			Price	Director
Common Stock					10,217 (1)	I	By Trustee	
Common Stock					12,539 (2)	I	By Trustee	
Common Stock					60,000 (3)	D		
Common Stock	12-10-97	G	V	2,019	D	D		
Common Stock					883 (4)	D		

Table II -- Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Derivative Security	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date	4. Code	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities	8. Price of Derivative Security	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Month	10. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership	
									Director	Indirect
Option (5)	35.625				9-15-89 - 10-15-98	Common Stock 4,375		4,375	D	
	35.625				9-15-90 - 10-15-98	Common Stock 4,375		4,375	D	
	35.625				9-15-91 - 10-15-98	Common Stock 4,375		4,375	D	
	35.625				9-15-92 - 10-15-98	Common Stock 4,375		4,375	D	
Option (6)	41.00				9-21-90 - 10-21-99	Common Stock 6,250		6,250	D	
	41.00				9-21-91 - 10-21-99	Common Stock 6,250		6,250	D	
	41.00				9-21-92 - 10-21-99	Common Stock 6,250		6,250	D	
	41.00				9-21-93 - 10-21-99	Common Stock 6,250		6,250	D	
Option (6)	30.750				9-20-91 - 10-20-00	Common Stock 6,250		6,250	D	
	30.750				9-20-92 - 10-20-00	Common Stock 6,250		6,250	D	
	30.750				9-20-93 - 10-20-00	Common Stock 6,250		6,250	D	

	30.750					9-20-94	10-20-00	Common Stock	6,250		6,250	D	
Option (6)	30.50					9-19-92	10-19-01	Common Stock	12,500		12,500	D	
	30.50					9-19-93	10-19-01	Common Stock	6,250		6,250	D	
	30.50					9-19-94	10-19-01	Common Stock	6,250		6,250	D	
Option (6)	23.875					9-21-93	10-21-02	Common Stock	15,000		15,000	D	
	23.875					9-21-94	10-21-02	Common Stock	7,500		7,500	D	
	23.875					9-21-95	10-21-02	Common Stock	7,500		7,500	D	
Option (6)	24.625					11-5-93	12-5-02	Common Stock	12,500		12,500	D	
	24.625					11-5-94	12-5-02	Common Stock	6,250		6,250	D	
	24.625					11-5-95	12-5-02	Common Stock	6,250		6,250	D	
Option (6)	33.125					9-16-94	10-16-03	Common Stock	20,000		20,000	D	
	33.125					9-16-95	10-16-03	Common Stock	10,000		10,000	D	
	33.125					9-16-96	10-16-03	Common Stock	10,000		10,000	D	
Option (7)	35.875					9-15-95	10-15-04	Common Stock	20,000		20,000	D	
	35.875					9-15-96	10-15-04	Common Stock	10,000		10,000	D	
	35.875					9-15-97	10-15-04	Common Stock	10,000		10,000	D	
Option (7)	33.875					9-21-96	10-21-05	Common Stock	20,000		20,000	D	
	33.875					9-21-97	10-21-05	Common Stock	10,000		10,000	D	
	33.875					9-21-98	10-21-05	Common Stock	10,000		10,000	D	
Option (7)	39.00					9-19-97	10-19-06	Common Stock	25,000		25,000	D	
	39.00					9-19-98	10-19-06	Common Stock	12,500		12,500	D	
	39.00					9-19-99	10-19-06	Common Stock	12,500		12,500	D	
Option (8)	53.375					9-18-98	10-18-07	Common Stock	20,000		20,000	D	
	53.375					9-18-99	10-18-07	Common Stock	10,000		10,000	D	
	53.375					9-18-00	10-18-07	Common Stock	10,000		10,000	D	
Common Stock Units (9)	1-for-1							Common Stock	23,756		23,756	D	

Explanation of Responses:

- Shares accrued under Ashland's Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan as of 3-31-96, the date of the final allocation to this account.
- Based on Employee Savings Plan information as of 1-1-98, the latest date for which such information is reasonably available, and includes transactions occurring on or after 11-17-97.
- Shares of restricted common stock granted pursuant to Ashland's 1997 Stock Incentive Plan and exempt under Rule 16b-3. The restricted common stock has been enrolled in Ashland's Dividend Reinvestment Plan.
- Shares held in Ashland's Dividend Reinvestment Plan as of 12-15-97.
- Employee stock option (represents a right to buy Ashland Common Stock) granted pursuant to Ashland's Amended Stock Incentive Plan. The employee stock option includes a tax withholding feature pursuant to the plan.
- Employee stock option (represents a right to buy Ashland Common Stock) granted pursuant to Ashland's

Long-Term Incentive Plan. The employee stock option includes a tax withholding feature pursuant to the plan.

7. Employee stock option (represents a right to buy Ashland Common Stock) granted pursuant to Ashland's 1993 Stock Incentive Plan. The employee stock option includes a tax withholding feature pursuant to the plan.

8. Employee stock option (represents a right to buy Ashland Common Stock) granted pursuant to Ashland's 1997 Stock Incentive Plan. The employee stock option includes a tax withholding feature pursuant to the plan.

9. Common Stock Units acquired pursuant to Ashland's 1995 Deferred Compensation Plan as of 9-30-97, payable in cash or stock upon termination of service and exempt under Rule 16b-3(d).

SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON

Paul W. Chellgren

DATE

January 5, 1998