



June 17, 2004

Ashland Inc. to Webcast Presentation to Investment Community

COVINGTON, Ky., Jun 17, 2004 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX/ -- Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH) today announced that on Monday, June 21, at 12:45 p.m. (EDT) it will conduct a live audio webcast of its mid-year business update and Chemical sector overview with the investment community. Participants include James J. O'Brien, Ashland Inc. chairman and chief executive officer, and Gary C. Cappeline, president and chief operating officer, Chemicals.

(Logo: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20040113/ASHLANDLOGO>)

The webcast, which will last approximately one hour, will be accessible through Ashland's Investor Relations website, www.ashland.com/investors . Following the live event, an archived version of the webcast will be available on the Ashland website for 12 months. Minimum requirements to listen to the webcast include the Windows MediaPlayer software and a 28.8 Kbps connection to the Internet.

Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH) is a Fortune 500 transportation construction, chemicals and petroleum company providing products, services and customer solutions throughout the world. To learn more about Ashland, visit www.ashland.com .

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/Company News On-Call: <http://www.prnewswire.com/comp/065263.html>
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<http://www.ashland.com>

"Safe Harbor" Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995: Statements in this press release regarding Ashland's business which are not historical facts are "forward-looking statements" that involve risks and uncertainties. For a discussion of such risks and uncertainties, which could cause actual results to differ from those contained in the forward-looking statements, see "Risk Factors" in the Company's Annual Report or Form 10-K for the most recently ended fiscal year.