FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

l	OMB APPRO	VAL				
l	OMB Number:	3235-0287				
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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

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 J MARVI		2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ASHLAND INC [ASH]									all applic Directo	ctor		10% Ow	ner				
(Last) (First) (Middle) 50 E. RIVERCENTER BOULEVARD							3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/04/2004									Officer (give title below) b			pecify	
(Street) COVINGTON KY 41012-0391					4. 1	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)									i. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable ine) X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting					
(City)	(S	tate)	(Zip)												Person					
		Tak	le I - No	n-Deriv	/ative	e Se	curit	ties Acc	quired,	Dis	posed o	f, or Bei	neficia	ally (Owned					
,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,					2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Yea		Execution Date,					Securities Acquired (A) or sposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and			5. Amour Securitie Beneficia Owned F	s Illy ollowing	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Direct of Indirect Estr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership	
									Code	v	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price		Reported Transact (Instr. 3 a	ion(s)			Instr. 4)	
Common	Stock			05/04	5/04/2004				М		25,000) A	\$35.	875	47,	,639		D		
Common	05/04	/2004	2004					20,541	l D	\$48	.18	27,	098	D						
Common	05/04	/2004	2004					2,100	A	\$33.	875	29,	198		D					
Common Stock 05/04/							2004		F		1,665	D	\$48	.18	27,533			D		
Common Stock															7,0	32(1)		I 1	LESOP	
Common Stock														2,392(2)			I	401(K)		
		-	Table II -						-		osed of, convertil			-	wned					
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security		3A. Deemed Execution I if any (Month/Day	Date, Transa Code (I			ı of E		5. Date Exercis Expiration Date (Month/Day/Ye		e	7. Title and Amou of Securities Underlying Derivative Securi (Instr. 3 and 4)		Derivative Security		9. Number derivative Securities Beneficial Owned Following Reported Transactio (Instr. 4)	e s ally g	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
					Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisa		Expiration Date	Title	Amour or Number of Shares	nber						
Stock Options (Right to buy)	\$33.875	05/04/2004			M ⁽³⁾			2,100	09/21/19	96	10/21/2005	Common Stock	2,100	0	\$0	22,900	0	D		
Stock Options (Right to	\$35.875	05/04/2004			M ⁽³⁾			25,000	09/15/19	95	10/15/2004	Common Stock	25,00	0	\$0	0		D		

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. Shares accrued under Ashland's Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan as of 4-30-04.
- 2. Based on Employee Savings Plan information as of 5-4-04, the latest date for which such information is reasonably available.
- 3. Employee stock option (represents a right to buy Ashland Common Stock) granted pursuant to Ashland's 1993 Stock Incentive Plan which vests in three annual installments: 50% after the 1st year, the next 25% the 2nd year and the remaining 25% the 3rd year. The employee stock option includes a tax withholding feature pursuant to the plan.

M. Craig Hall

05/06/2004

** 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.