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## Ashland Performance Materials expands its pressure-sensitive adhesives range for medical applications

DUBLIN, Ohio – Ashland Performance Materials, a commercial unit of Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH), recognized as the world leader in solvent-based pressure-sensitive adhesive (PSA) technology, is introducing a new standard product into its commercially available adhesive range for medical tapes.

Ashland's Aroset™ AGX pressure-sensitive adhesive is a single-package, pure-acrylic adhesive-in solution that dries to a clear, tacky film. The adhesive combines a unique balance in tack, peel and shear properties and features a unique cross-linking profile.

Ashland's Aroset AGX-L adhesive is a coater-ready product pre-qualified for medical applications. Moreover, it complies with U.S. Food and Drug Administration Regulation 21 CFR 175.105 (adhesives).

This toluene-free adhesive does combine a fast initial cure for good film-forming required for further processing, but when coated on fabric or foam, a second cure is building excellent anchorage needed for bandages or other skin-applied tapes.

According to David Hatgas, global product manager, packaging & converting adhesives, "Ashland Performance Materials' products provide innovative solutions to the demands of the health care industry. With over 35 years of successful history in medical applications, the Aroset product line, provides a wide range of technical solutions in response to our customers' market opportunities. Whether you are in the wound care, transdermal, electromedical or diagnostic markets, Ashland's Aroset high-performance pressure sensitive adhesive products are custom-designed to provide innovative solutions to the demands of the health care industry."

In addition to Aroset PSA, Ashland has an expansive range of customized waterborne heat seals, cold seals and cohesives for the food and industrial packaging and the medical packaging market (surgical gloves, medical instruments and bandages) under the Pureseal<sup>TM</sup> trade name.

To learn more about this adhesive or Ashland's wide range of products, please visit booth No. 573 at the Medical Design and Manufacturing East Conference in Philadelphia May 21-24, 2012, or visit our website at www.ashland.com.

Ashland Performance Materials is the global leader in unsaturated polyester resins and vinyl ester resins. In addition, it provides customers with leading technologies in gelcoats, pressure-sensitive and structural adhesives, coatings and elastomers.

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 <u>architectural coatings</u>, <u>automotive</u>, <u>construction</u>, <u>energy</u>, <u>food and beverage</u>, <u>personal care</u>, <u>pharmaceutical</u>, <u>tissue and towel</u>, and <u>water treatment</u>. Visit www.ashland.com to <u>see the innovations we offer</u> through our four commercial units – Ashland Specialty Ingredients, Ashland Water Technologies, Ashland Performance Materials and Ashland Consumer Markets.

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