FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

l	OMB APPRO	VAL								
	OMB Number:	3235-0287								
l	Estimated average burden									
l	hours per response:	0.5								

	Check this box if no longer subject to
\neg	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

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* SOLSO THEODORE M						2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ASHLAND INC [ASH]										neck all a	hip of Reporti pplicable) ector	ng Pei	10% O	wner
	NS ENGIN	irst) (E COMPANY, I		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/31/2004											icer (give title ow)		Other (below)	specify		
500 JACKSON STREET (Street) COLUMBUS IN 47202						4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)										Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable ne) X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting				
(City) (State) (Zip)															rson	70 110	Tone repe	orung		
Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned																				
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transa Date (Month/D						ar) E	A. Deemed execution Date, any month/Day/Yea		e, .	Code (Instr.		4. Securities Acquired (A Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 5)				d Seci Ben Owr	mount of urities eficially ed Following	Forn (D) c	n: Direct or Indirect nstr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
							Code	v	Amoun	t {	A) or D)	Price	Tran	orted saction(s) r. 3 and 4)			(Instr. 4)			
Common Stock									T								1,000		D	
Restricted Stock																	1,000(1)		D	
	Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)																			
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deeme Execution if any (Month/Day	Date,	4. Transactio Code (Inst		5. Nu of Deriv Secu Acqu (A) or Dispo of (D) (Instr	rities ired r osed) : 3, 4	6. Date Exercisab Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)				Amour Securi Under Deriva	7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price Derivati Security (Instr. 5)	e derivative	s Illy	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
					Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exer	e rcisable	Ex Da	piration te	Title	O N O	umber					
Common Stock Units	\$0 ⁽²⁾	12/31/2004			J ⁽³⁾		377			(3)		(3)	Comm Stocl		377	\$58.38	11,82	5	D	

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. Represents shares of Restricted Common Stock acquired pursuant to Ashland's stock incentive plans as approved by the shareholders and exempt pursuant to Rule 16b-3.
- 2. 1-for-1
- 3. Common Stock Units acquired pursuant to Ashland's Deferred Compensation Plan for Non-Employee Directors as of 12-31-04, payable in cash or stock upon termination of service and exempt under Rule 16b-3. (One (1) Common Stock Unit in the Deferred Compensation Plan for Non-Employee Directors is the equivalent of one (1) share of Ashland Common Stock)

M. Craig Hall 01/03/2005

** 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.