



## Ashland Inc. Appoints Perry To Board

COVINGTON, Ky., Jan 25, 2007 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX News Network/ -- The board of directors of Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH) met today and approved the appointment of Barry W. Perry as a director whose term will expire at the annual shareholders' meeting in 2008. He will serve as a member of Ashland's Environmental, Health & Safety and Personnel & Compensation committees.

Perry, 60, served as chairman and chief executive officer of Engelhard Corp. until resigning in 2006. Prior to this position, he held various management positions with Engelhard beginning in 1993. He was a group vice president with Rhone-Poulenc from 1991 to 1993 and also held a number of executive positions during his 22 years with General Electric Co.

Perry is a director of Arrow Electronics Inc., where he serves as chairman of the Audit Committee, and a director of Cookson Group PLC, serving on the Audit, Compensation, and Nominating committees.

Ashland Inc., a diversified, global chemical company, provides quality products, services and solutions to customers in more than 100 countries. A FORTUNE 500 company, it operates through four wholly owned divisions: Ashland Performance Materials, Ashland Distribution, Valvoline and Ashland Water Technologies. To learn more about Ashland, visit [www.ashland.com](http://www.ashland.com).

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"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.