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**Ashland Distribution forms “The Green Connection”
to bring eco-benefit options to customers**

DUBLIN, Ohio – Composites manufacturers now have additional options that can improve their environmental performance thanks to a program from Ashland Distribution, a commercial unit of Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH). In alliance with JHM Technologies, Inc., New Boston RTM and SR Composites, LLC, Ashland Distribution is introducing The Green Connection to offer customers a program for closed-molding processes focused on improving productivity and environmental performance.

Through The Green Connection, Ashland customers, interested in transitioning production to Resin Transfer Molding (RTM) and Lite RTM, have access to the broad capabilities of JHM Technologies and New Boston RTM. Additionally, the SR Composites’ sprayable vacuum bag technology provides a powerful, production-proven solution to the Vacuum Assisted Resin Transfer Molding (VARTM) process.

“Our customers are looking for ways to increase their efficiency and improve upon their environmental stewardship,” said Don Belock, composites sales director, Ashland Distribution. “Our offering provides the most effective way for us to help our customers meet those goals. Our partners specialize in training, equipment, molds, tooling and production, so by creating this connection we provide a true strategic benefit for our customers.”

Composites manufacturers will be able to obtain the specialized skills, training and equipment for closed-molding processes all from one source. Closed-molding processes have proven reliability and improved cost efficiency, and it is Ashland’s intent to ease the customer transition process for closed molding by bringing this connection together.

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Ashland continues to be at the forefront in helping customers reduce process emissions and solid waste. Closed-molding processes reduce the release of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) and hazardous air pollutants (HAPs). By reducing VOCs and HAPs, closed molding also provides an improved environment for employees.

A vital part of the VARTM process is vacuum bagging technology. Ashland Distribution exclusively offers a reusable, water-based sprayable infusion bag technology called Sprayomer™ elastomers from SR Composites, LLC. The proven durability of the bag allows manufacturers to reuse it for many cycles, which reduces the solid waste associated with disposable bagging technology.

Manufacturers wanting more information on the Ashland Green Connection can learn more from their Ashland Distribution sales representative or by calling 1-800-531-7106 or by sending an e-mail to greenconnection@ashland.com.

Ashland Distribution, a commercial unit of Ashland Inc., distributes chemicals, plastics and composite raw materials in North America, as well as plastics in Europe and China. Ashland Distribution also provides environmental services in North America, including hazardous and non-hazardous waste collection, recovery, recycling and disposal services.

Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH) provides specialty chemical products, services and solutions for many of the world's most essential needs and industries. Serving customers in more than 100 countries, it operates through five commercial units: Ashland Aqualon Functional Ingredients, Ashland Hercules Water Technologies, Ashland Performance Materials, Ashland Consumer Markets (Valvoline) and Ashland Distribution. To learn more about Ashland, visit www.ashland.com.