

## Ashland Inc. Chairman and CEO O'Brien to Speak Dec. 2 at J.P. Morgan SMid Cap Conference

COVINGTON, Ky., Nov 19, 2009 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX News Network/ -- James J. O'Brien, chairman and chief executive officer of Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH), will participate in the J.P. Morgan SMid Cap Conference in New York City on Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2009, at 10:15 a.m. EST.

(Logo: http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20040113/ASHLANDLOGO)

In his remarks to securities analysts, O'Brien will review Ashland's businesses, strategies and priorities. A copy of O'Brien's presentation will be available on Ashland's website at <a href="http://investor.ashland.com">http://investor.ashland.com</a> following the event.

Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH) provides specialty chemical products, services and solutions for many of the world's most essential 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 <a href="https://www.ashland.com">www.ashland.com</a>.

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