



News Release

Ashland increases capacity for Benecel™ cellulose ethers

Supporting customers' growth is cornerstone of business strategy

Wilmington, Del., January 13, 2022, Ashland has begun to significantly increase production capacity for Benecel™ cellulose ethers at its facility in Doel, Belgium. When completed in 2023, capacity will be increased by more than 50 percent and supports the growing demand for products sold to pharmaceuticals, nutrition and performance specialty applications.

“This investment underscores our commitment to our customers, and it is a critical element of our growth strategy,” said Ashok Kalyana, senior vice president and general manager, life sciences, Ashland. “We have recently launched new controlled release grades of Benecel™ for the pharmaceutical market, and we are seeing rapid growth of Benecel™ as a binder for plant-based proteins.”

High-purity Benecel™ cellulose ethers such as methylcellulose (MC) and methyhydroxyethylcellulose (HPMC), are used in a variety of pharmaceutical, nutrition, and personal care applications. In addition, this expansion will add capacity for some other specialty grades used in high-end industrial markets.

About Ashland

Ashland (NYSE: ASH) is a global, consumer market-focused additives and specialty ingredients company that is responsibly solving for a better world. Through science and a conscious and proactive mindset for sustainability, we serve customers in pharmaceutical, personal care, architectural coatings, construction, energy, food, beverage, and nutraceuticals. At Ashland, we are approximately 3,800* passionate, tenacious solvers who thrive on developing practical, innovative, and elegant solutions to complex problems for customers in more than 100 countries. Visit ashland.com and ashland.com/sustainability to learn more.

* Reflects employee base following the planned sale in 2022 of performance adhesives.

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