

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20594

SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

(Amendment No. 2)\*

Ashland Inc.

(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock

(Title of Class of Securities)

044204105

(CUSIP Number)

Check the following box if a fee is being paid with this statement [ ]. (A fee is not required only if the filing person: (1) has a previous statement on file reporting beneficial ownership of more than five percent of the class of securities described in Item 1: and (2) has filed no amendment subsequent thereto reporting beneficial ownership of five percent or less of such class.) (See Rule 13d-7).

\*The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP\*

(a)

(b)

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

5 SOLE VOTING POWER

NONE

6 SHARED VOTING POWER

NONE

NUMBER OF  
SHARES  
BENEFICIA  
L  
Y OWNED BY  
EACH  
REPORTING  
PERSON WITH

7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

7,878,800

8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

NONE

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

7,878,800 Beneficial ownership disclaimed pursuant to Rule 13d-4

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES\*

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9

10.9%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON\*

IA

\*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON  
S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON  
Washington Mutual Investors Fund, Inc.  
52-0793788

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP\*

(a)

(b)

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Maryland

5 SOLE VOTING POWER

3,680,000

6 SHARED VOTING POWER

NONE

NUMBER OF  
SHARES

BENEFICIA  
L Y OWNED BY

7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

NONE

EACH  
REPORTING

PERSON WITH

8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

NONE

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

3,680,000

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES\*

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9

5.1%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON\*

IV

\*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20549

Schedule 13G  
Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Amendment No. 2

Item 1(a) Name of Issuer:  
Ashland Inc.

Item 1(b) Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:  
50 E. River Center Blvd.  
P.O. Box 391  
Covington, KY 41012-0391

Item 2(a) Name of Person(s) Filing:  
Capital Research and Management Company and Washington Mutual  
Investors Fund, Inc.

Item 2(b) Address of Principal Business Office:  
333 South Hope Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90071

Item 2(c) Citizenship: N/A

Item 2(d) Title of Class of Securities:  
Common Stock

Item 2(e) CUSIP Number:  
044204105

Item 3 The person(s) filing is(are):

- (d) ☒ Investment Company registered under Section 8 of the  
Investment Company Act.
- (e) ☒ Investment Adviser registered under Section 203 of the  
Investment Advisers Act of 1940.

Item 4 Ownership

Capital Research and Management Company, an investment adviser registered under Section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 is deemed to be the beneficial owner of 7,878,800 shares or 10.9% of the 72,177,000 shares of Common Stock believed to be outstanding as a result of acting as investment adviser to various investment companies registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act of 1940.

Washington Mutual Investors Fund, Inc., an investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, which is advised by Capital Research and Management Company, is the beneficial owner of 3,680,000 shares or 5.1% of the 72,177,000 shares of Common Stock believed to be outstanding.

Item 5 Ownership of 5% or Less of a Class: [ ]

- Item 6 Ownership of More than 5% on Behalf of Another Person: N/A
- Item 7 Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on By the Parent Holding Company: N/A
- Item 8 Identification and Classification of Members of the Group: N/A
- Item 9 Notice of Dissolution of the Group: N/A
- Item 10 Certification

By signing below, I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired for the purpose of and do not have the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of such securities and were not acquired in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having such purpose or effect.

Signature

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Date: February 10, 2000 (For the period ended December 31, 1999)

Signature: \*Paul G. Haaga, Jr.

Name/Title: Paul G. Haaga, Jr., Executive Vice President  
Capital Research and Management Company

Date: February 10, 2000 (For the period ended December 31, 1999)

Signature: \*Howard L. Kitzmiller

Name/Title: Howard L. Kitzmiller, Senior Vice President  
Washington Mutual Investors Fund, Inc.

\*By

James P. Ryan  
Attorney-in-fact

Signed pursuant to a Power of Attorney dated January 18, 2000 included as an Exhibit to Schedule 13G filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission by Capital Research and Management Company on February 10, 2000 with respect to 3COM Corporation.

CUSIP: 044204105

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AGREEMENT

Los Angeles, CA  
February 10, 2000

Capital Research and Management Company ("CRMC") and Washington Mutual Investors Fund, Inc. ("WMIF") hereby agree to file a joint statement on Schedule 13G under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act") in connection with their beneficial ownership of Common Stock issued by Ashland Inc.

CRMC and WMIF state that they are each entitled to individually use Schedule 13G pursuant to Rule 13d-1(c) of the Act.

CRMC and WMIF are each responsible for the timely filing of the statement and any amendments thereto, and for the completeness and accuracy of the information concerning each of them contained therein but are not responsible for the completeness or accuracy of the information concerning the others.

CAPITAL RESEARCH AND MANAGEMENT COMPANY

BY: \*Paul G. Haaga, Jr.

Paul G. Haaga, Jr., Executive  
Vice President  
Capital Research and Management  
Company

WASHINGTON MUTUAL INVESTORS FUND, INC.

BY: \*Howard L. Kitzmiller

Howard L. Kitzmiller, Senior  
Vice President  
Washington Mutual Investors  
Fund, Inc.

\*By

James P. Ryan  
Attorney-in-fact

Signed pursuant to a Power of Attorney dated January 18, 2000 included  
as an Exhibit to Schedule 13G filed with the Securities and Exchange  
Commission by Capital Research and Management Company on February 10,  
2000 with respect to 3COM Corporation