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ASHLAND INC. Form 8-K February 22, 2013

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of

the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): February 22, 2013

ASHLAND INC.

 $(Exact\ name\ of\ registrant\ as\ specified\ in\ its\ charter)$

Kentucky (State or other jurisdiction

1-32532 (Commission **20-0865835** (IRS Employer

of incorporation) File Number) Identification No.)

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50 E. RiverCenter Boulevard

P.O. Box 391

Covington, Kentucky (Address of principal executive offices)

41012-0391 (Zip Code)

(859) 815-3333

(Registrant s telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- " Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- " Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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Item 8.01. Other Events.

On February 22, 2013, Ashland Inc. (the Company) announced the pricing of an offering (the Notes Offering) of \$600 million aggregate principal amount of its 3.000% senior notes due 2016, \$700 million aggregate principal amount of its 3.875% senior notes due 2018, \$650 million aggregate principal amount of its 4.750% senior notes due 2022 and \$350 million aggregate principal amount of its 6.875% senior notes due 2043 (collectively, the Notes). The Notes will be unsecured, unsubordinated obligations of the Company. The Notes Offering is expected to close on February 26, 2013, subject to customary closing conditions.

The Notes have not been registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act), and may not be offered or sold in the United States absent registration or an applicable exemption from registration requirements. The Notes will be offered and sold only to qualified institutional buyers pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act, and outside the United States pursuant to Regulation S under the Securities Act.

A copy of the news release announcing pricing of the Notes Offering is hereby incorporated by reference and attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits

Exhibit

No. Description

99.1 News Release announcing Pricing of the Notes Offering dated February 22, 2013.

Forward Looking Statements

This Current Report on Form 8-K contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Ashland has identified some of these forward-looking statements with words such as anticipates, believes, expects, estimates, may, will, should and intends and the negative of these words or other comparable termino addition, Ashland may from time to time make forward-looking statements in its other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), news releases and other written and oral communications. These forward-looking statements are based on Ashland s expectations and assumptions, as of the date such statements are made, regarding Ashland s future operating performance and financial condition, the economy and other future events or circumstances. Ashland s expectations and assumptions include, without limitation, internal forecasts and analyses of current and future market conditions and trends, management plans and strategies, operating efficiencies and economic conditions (such as prices, supply and demand, cost of raw materials, and the ability to recover raw-material cost increases through price increases), and risks and uncertainties associated with the following: Ashland s substantial indebtedness (including the possibility that such indebtedness and related restrictive covenants may adversely affect Ashland s future cash flows, results of operations, financial condition and its ability to repay debt), severe weather, natural disasters, and legal proceedings and claims (including environmental and asbestos matters). Various risks and uncertainties may cause actual results to differ materially from those stated, projected or implied by any forward-looking statements, including, without limitation, risks and uncertainties affecting Ashland that are described in its most recent Form 10-K (including Item 1A Risk Factors) filed with the SEC, which is available on Ashland s website at http://investor.ashland.com or on the SEC s website at http://www.sec.gov. Ashland believes its expectations and assumptions are reasonable, but there can be no assurance that the expectations reflected herein will be achieved. Ashland undertakes no obligation to subsequently update any forward-looking statements made in this Form 8-K or otherwise except as required by securities or other applicable law.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

ASHLAND INC.

(Registrant)

Date: February 22, 2013 /s/ Lamar M. Chambers
Lamar M. Chambers
Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

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