ASHLAND INC.
Form 4
December 11, 2006

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number:	3235-0287
Expires:	January 31, 2005
Estimated average burden hours per response...	0.5

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. *See* Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
WATERS FRANK L

(Last) (First) (Middle)

5200 BLAZER PARKWAY

(Street)

DUBLIN, OH 43017

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading Symbol
ASHLAND INC. [ASH]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
12/07/2006

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

_____ Director _____ 10% Owner
__X__ Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
Vice President

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
_X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person
___ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	12/07/2006		M		8,017	A	$ 19.75	8,175	D	
Common Stock	12/07/2006		M		2,849	A	$ 25.54	11,024	D	
Common Stock	12/07/2006		M		1,424	A	$ 33.69	12,448	D	
Common Stock	12/07/2006		M		2,849	A	$ 37.46	15,297	D	
Common Stock	12/07/2006		S		15,139	D	$ 67.4742	158	D	

Common Stock		2,436 (1)	I	401(k)
Common Stock		565 (2)	I	LESOP

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

SEC 1474 (9-02)

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned
(*e.g.*, puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)		8 D S (I
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
Stock Options (Right to buy)	$ 19.75	12/07/2006		M(3)			8,017	09/19/2003	10/19/2012	Common Stock	8,017	
Stock Options (Right to buy)	$ 25.54	12/07/2006		M(3)			2,849	09/20/2002	10/20/2011	Common Stock	2,849	
Stock Options (Right to buy)	$ 33.69	12/07/2006		M(3)			1,424	09/17/1999	10/17/2008	Common Stock	1,424	
Stock Options (Right to buy)	$ 37.46	12/07/2006		M(3)			2,849	09/18/1998	10/18/2007	Common Stock	2,849	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

WATERS FRANK L
5200 BLAZER PARKWAY
DUBLIN, OH 43017

Vice President

Signatures

David B. Mattingly, Attorney-in-Fact — 12/11/2006

**Signature of Reporting Person — Date

Explanation of Responses:

***** If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).

****** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

(1) Based on Employee Savings Plan information as of 12-6-2006, the latest date for which such information is reasonably available.

(3) Employee stock option (represents a right to buy Ashland Common Stock) granted pursuant to Ashland's Stock Incentive Plan which vests in three annual installments: 50% after the 1st year, the next 25% the 2nd year and the remaining 25% the 3rd year. The employee stock option includes a tax withholding feature pursuant to the plan.

(2) Shares accrued under Ashland's Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan as of 12-6-2006.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.
Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.