

ASHLAND INC  
Form 4/A  
April 04, 2005

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 \*  
ESLER SUSAN B

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
50 E. RIVERCENTER BOULEVARD  
(Street)

COVINGTON, KY 41012-0391

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
03/15/2005

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)  
03/17/2005

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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |     |       |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|-----|-------|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D)  | Code  | V  | Amount                            | (D) | Price |

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

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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 | 2. Conversion or Exercise | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any | 4. Transaction Code | 5. Number of | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of Derivative Security |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|--|---|---------------------------------|
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|--|---|---------------------------------|

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| (Instr. 3)               | Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8)       | Derivative<br>Securities<br>Acquired<br>(A) or<br>Disposed<br>of (D)<br>(Instr. 3,<br>4, and 5) | (Instr. 5) |                |                     |                    |                 |  |          |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|---|------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--|----------|
|                          |                                    |                  | Code             | V   | (A)        | (D)            | Date<br>Exercisable | Expiration<br>Date | Title           | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares |          |
| Common<br>Stock<br>Units | \$ 0 <sup>(1)</sup>                | 03/15/2005       | J <sup>(2)</sup> |   | 24         | <sup>(3)</sup> | <sup>(2)</sup>      | <sup>(2)</sup>     | Common<br>Stock | 24                                     | \$ 66.61 |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address   | Relationships |           |                   |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|-------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer           | Other |
| ESLER SUSAN B<br>50 E. RIVERCENTER BOULEVARD<br>COVINGTON, KY 41012-0391 |               |           | Vice<br>President |       |

## Signatures

Jami K. Suver,  
Attorney-in-Fact

04/04/2005

\_\_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) 1-for-1

(2) Common Stock Units acquired pursuant to Ashland's 1995 Deferred Compensation Plan as of 3-15-05, and exempt under Rule 16b-3(d). (One (1) Common Stock Unit in the 1995 Deferred Compensation Plan is the equivalent of one (1) share of Ashland Common Stock.)

(3) This amount reflects the exclusion of 114 shares of Ashland Common Stock that were included on the insider's Form 4 filed on 3/17/05 due to an administrative error by the plan administrator.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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