

ASHLAND INC.  
Form 3  
October 19, 2006

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0104  
Expires: January 31, 2005  
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

**INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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)

|   |   |  |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|
| <p>1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *</p> <p>Â Rijnveldshoek Peter H</p> <p>(Last) (First) (Middle)</p> <p>5200 BLAZER PARKWAY</p> <p>(Street)</p> <p>DUBLIN,Â OHÂ 43017</p> <p>(City) (State) (Zip)</p> | <p>2. Date of Event Requiring Statement</p> <p>(Month/Day/Year)</p> <p>10/09/2006</p> | <p>3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol</p> <p>ASHLAND INC. [ASH]</p> | <p>4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer</p> <p>(Check all applicable)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>(give title below) (specify below)</p> <p>Vice President</p> | <p>5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)</p> | <p>6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person</p> |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| <p>1. Title of Security</p> <p>(Instr. 4)</p> | <p>2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned</p> <p>(Instr. 4)</p> | <p>3. Ownership Form:</p> <p>Direct (D)<br/>or Indirect (I)</p> <p>(Instr. 5)</p> | <p>4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership</p> <p>(Instr. 5)</p> |
|---|---|---|---|

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

**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.**

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

|  |   |  |   |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|--|---|
| <p>1. Title of Derivative Security</p> <p>(Instr. 4)</p> | <p>2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date</p> <p>(Month/Day/Year)</p> <p>Date Exercisable      Expiration Date</p> | <p>3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security</p> <p>(Instr. 4)</p> <p>Title      Amount or Number of Shares</p> | <p>4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security</p> | <p>5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security:</p> <p>Direct (D)<br/>or Indirect (I)</p> <p>(Instr. 5)</p> | <p>6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership</p> <p>(Instr. 5)</p> |
|--|---|--|---|--|---|

Stock Appreciation Right 09/15/2006 10/15/2015 Common Stock 7,500 \$ 58.5 <sup>(1)</sup> D Â

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                    | Relationships |           |                  |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|------------------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer          | Other |
| Rijneveldshoek Peter H<br>5200 BLAZER PARKWAY<br>DUBLIN, OH 43017 | Â             | Â         | Â Vice President | Â     |

## Signatures

David B. Mattingly,  
Attorney-in-Fact 10/19/2006

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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) Stock Appreciation Right granted pursuant to Ashland's Amended and Restated 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.

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.