ESLER SUSAN B Form 4 March 18, 2008

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB Number: 3235-0287

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Washington, D.C. 20549 Number:

Expires: January 31, 2005
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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

burden hours per response... 0.5

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * ESLER SUSAN B			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ASHLAND INC. [ASH]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction	(===== an approact)		
50 E. RIVERCENTER BOULEVARD			(Month/Day/Year) 03/14/2008	Director 10% Owner X Officer (give title Other (specify below) Vice President		
(Street) COVINGTON, KY 41012-0391			4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		
			Filed(Month/Day/Year)			

(City)	(State) (Z	Zip) Table	I - Non-De	erivative Securities Ac	quired, Disposed	of, or Beneficial	lly Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities on Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (A) or	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)
Common Stock			Code V	Amount (D) Price	2,048	D	
Restricted Stock					900	D	
Common Stock					3 (1)	I	401(K)

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

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number.

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

1. Title of Derivative	2. Conversion	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if	4.	5. orNumber	6. Date Exer Expiration D		7. Title and A Underlying S		8. Price of Derivative
Security	or Exercise	(Wolldin Day/ Teal)	any	Code	of	(Month/Day		(Instr. 3 and		Security
(Instr. 3)	Price of Derivative		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative Securities					(Instr. 5)
	Security				Acquired (A) or					
					Disposed					
					of (D) (Instr. 3,					
					4, and 5)					
						Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of	
				Code V	(A) (D)				Shares	
Common Stock Units	\$ 0 (2)	03/14/2008		J(3)	50	(3)	(3)	Common Stock	50	\$ 46.78

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

ESLER SUSAN B 50 E. RIVERCENTER BOULEVARD COVINGTON, KY 41012-0391

Vice President

Signatures

Linda L. Foss, Attorney-in-Fact

**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).
- (2) 1-for-1
- (1) Based on Employee Savings Plan information as of 3-14-08, the latest date for which such information is reasonably available.
- (3) Common Stock Units acquired pursuant to Ashland's Deferred Compensation Plan as of 3-14-08, and exempt under Rule 16b-3(d). (One (1) Common Stock Unit in the Deferred Compensation Plan is the equivalent of one (1) share of Ashland Common Stock.)

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.

Reporting Owners 2