

Form 5500 Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan This form is required to be filed for employee benefit plans under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and sections 6047(e), and 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.	OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089 2009 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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Part I	Annual Report Identification Information		
For calendar plan year 2009 or fiscal plan year beginning <u>10/01/2009</u> and ending <u>09/30/2010</u>			
A This return/report is for:	☐ a multiemployer plan;	☐ a multiple-employer plan; or	
	☒ a single-employer plan;	☐ a DFE (specify) ____	
B This return/report is:	☐ the first return/report;	☐ the final return/report;	
	☒ an amended return/report;	☐ a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months).	
C If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here.	☐		
D Check box if filing under:	☒ Form 5558;	☐ automatic extension;	☐ the DFVC program;
	☐ special extension (enter description)		

Part II	Basic Plan Information —enter all requested information		
1a Name of plan <u>ASHLAND INC LEVERAGED EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN</u>	1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>101</u>	
	1c Effective date of plan	<u>10/01/1985</u>	
2a Plan sponsor's name and address (employer, if for a single-employer plan) (Address should include room or suite no.) <u>ASHLAND INC</u> <u>P O BOX 14000</u> <u>3499 BLAZER PARKWAY</u> <u>LEXINGTON, KY 40512</u>	2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>20-0865835</u>	2c Sponsor's telephone number <u>859-357-7777</u>	2d Business code (see instructions) <u>325100</u>

Caution: A penalty for the late or incomplete filing of this return/report will be assessed unless reasonable cause is established.

Under penalties of perjury and other penalties set forth in the instructions, I declare that I have examined this return/report, including accompanying schedules, statements and attachments, as well as the electronic version of this return/report, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

SIGN HERE	<u>Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.</u>	<u>07/15/2011</u>	<u>RONALD GRIFFITH</u>
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of employer/plan sponsor	Date	Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of DFE	Date	Enter name of individual signing as DFE

3a Plan administrator's name and address (if same as plan sponsor, enter "Same") ASHLAND INC P O BOX 14000 3499 BLAZER PARKWAY LEXINGTON, KY 40512	3b Administrator's EIN 20-0865835 3c Administrator's telephone number 859-357-7777
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4 If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the name, EIN and the plan number from the last return/report: a Sponsor's name	4b EIN 4c PN
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5 Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	5	3623
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6 Number of participants as of the end of the plan year (welfare plans complete only lines 6a , 6b , 6c , and 6d).		
a Active participants.....	6a	3308
b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits.....	6b	4
c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits.....	6c	171
d Subtotal. Add lines 6a , 6b , and 6c	6d	3483
e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits.....	6e	
f Total. Add lines 6d and 6e	6f	3483
g Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item).....	6g	3346
h Number of participants that terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.....	6h	

7 Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item)	7	
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8a If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristic Codes in the instructions:
 2D 2P

b If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristic Codes in the instructions:

9a Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply) (1) ☐ Insurance (2) ☐ Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) ☒ Trust (4) ☐ General assets of the sponsor	9b Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply) (1) ☐ Insurance (2) ☐ Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) ☒ Trust (4) ☐ General assets of the sponsor
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10 Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)

a Pension Schedules (1) ☒ R (Retirement Plan Information) (2) ☐ MB (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary (3) ☐ SB (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary	b General Schedules (1) ☒ H (Financial Information) (2) ☐ I (Financial Information – Small Plan) (3) ☐ A (Insurance Information) (4) ☒ C (Service Provider Information) (5) ☐ D (DFE/Participating Plan Information) (6) ☐ G (Financial Transaction Schedules)
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<div>SCHEDULE C</div> <div>(Form 5500)</div> <div>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</div> <div>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</div> <div>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</div>	<div>Service Provider Information</div> <div>This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).</div> <div>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.</div>	OMB No. 1210-0110
		2009
		This Form is Open to Public Inspection.

For calendar plan year 2009 or fiscal plan year beginning 10/01/2009 and ending 09/30/2010

<div>A</div> <div>Name of plan</div> <div>ASHLAND INC LEVERAGED EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN</div>	<div>B</div> <div>Three-digit plan number (PN)</div> <div>▶</div> <div>101</div>
<div>C</div> <div>Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500</div> <div>ASHLAND INC</div>	<div>D</div> <div>Employer Identification Number (EIN)</div> <div>20-0865835</div>

Part I

Service Provider Information (see instructions)

You must complete this Part, in accordance with the instructions, to report the information required for **each person** who received, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of monetary value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or the person's position with the plan during the plan year. If a person received **only** eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures, you are required to answer line 1 but are not required to include that person when completing the remainder of this Part.

1

Information on Persons Receiving Only Eligible Indirect Compensation

a

Check "Yes" or "No" to indicate whether you are excluding a person from the remainder of this Part because they received only eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures (see instructions for definitions and conditions).....

☐ Yes

☒ No

b

If you answered line 1a "Yes," enter the name and EIN or address of each person providing the required disclosures for the service providers who received only eligible indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed (see instructions).

(b)

Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

(b)

Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosure on eligible indirect compensation

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2. Information on Other Service Providers Receiving Direct or Indirect Compensation. Except for those persons for whom you answered "yes" to line 1a above, complete as many entries as needed to list each person receiving, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or their position with the plan during the plan year. (See instructions).

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

FIDELITY MANAGEMENT TRUST CO

04-6788248

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
26	TRUSTEE	0	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☒		Yes ☐ No ☒

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

3 If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received \$1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.

Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information

4 Provide, to the extent possible, the following information for each service provider who failed or refused to provide the information necessary to complete this Schedule.

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
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(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

Part III Termination Information on Accountants and Enrolled Actuaries (see instructions)
(complete as many entries as needed)

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN;
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN;
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

SCHEDULE H (Form 5500) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small> <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	Financial Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ► File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110 2009 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
For calendar plan year 2009 or fiscal plan year beginning <u>10/01/2009</u> and ending <u>09/30/2010</u>		
A Name of plan <u>ASHLAND INC LEVERAGED EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ►	<u>101</u>
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>ASHLAND INC</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>20-0865835</u>	

Part I	Asset and Liability Statement		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
1 Current value of plan assets and liabilities at the beginning and end of the plan year. Combine the value of plan assets held in more than one trust. Report the value of the plan's interest in a commingled fund containing the assets of more than one plan on a line-by-line basis unless the value is reportable on lines 1c(9) through 1c(14). Do not enter the value of that portion of an insurance contract which guarantees, during this plan year, to pay a specific dollar benefit at a future date. Round off amounts to the nearest dollar. MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 1b(1), 1b(2), 1c(8), 1g, 1h, and 1i. CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 1d and 1e. See instructions.				
	Assets			
a	Total noninterest-bearing cash	1a		
b	Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
	(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)		
	(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)		
	(3) Other	1b(3)		
c	General investments:			
	(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)	150579	220896
	(2) U.S. Government securities	1c(2)		
	(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
	(A) Preferred	1c(3)(A)		
	(B) All other	1c(3)(B)		
	(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
	(A) Preferred	1c(4)(A)		
	(B) Common	1c(4)(B)		
	(5) Partnership/joint venture interests	1c(5)		
	(6) Real estate (other than employer real property)	1c(6)		
	(7) Loans (other than to participants)	1c(7)		
	(8) Participant loans	1c(8)		
	(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)		
	(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)		
	(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts	1c(11)		
	(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities	1c(12)		
	(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	1c(13)		
	(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts)	1c(14)		
	(15) Other	1c(15)		

1d Employer-related investments:

		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities	1d(1)		
(2) Employer real property	1d(2)	126375180	125975122
e Buildings and other property used in plan operation	1e		
f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e)	1f	126525759	126196018

Liabilities

g Benefit claims payable	1g		
h Operating payables	1h		
i Acquisition indebtedness	1i		
j Other liabilities	1j		
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j)	1k		

Net Assets

l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	126525759	126196018
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Part II Income and Expense Statement

2 Plan income, expenses, and changes in net assets for the year. Include all income and expenses of the plan, including any trust(s) or separately maintained fund(s) and any payments/receipts to/from insurance carriers. Round off amounts to the nearest dollar. MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 2a, 2b(1)(E), 2e, 2f, and 2g.

Income**a Contributions:**

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers	2a(1)(A)		
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)		
(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)		
(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B) , (C) , and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		

b Earnings on investments:**(1) Interest:**

(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit)	2b(1)(A)	930	
(B) U.S. Government securities	2b(1)(B)		
(C) Corporate debt instruments	2b(1)(C)		
(D) Loans (other than to participants)	2b(1)(D)		
(E) Participant loans	2b(1)(E)		
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)		
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		930
(2) Dividends: (A) Preferred stock	2b(2)(A)		
(B) Common stock	2b(2)(B)	1210848	
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds)	2b(2)(C)		
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)		1210848
(3) Rents	2b(3)		
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: (A) Aggregate proceeds	2b(4)(A)	15426382	
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions)	2b(4)(B)	14736883	
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result	2b(4)(C)		689499

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
2b (5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: (A) Real estate.....	2b(5)(A)		
(B) Other	2b(5)(B)	14335840	
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines 2b(5)(A) and (B)	2b(5)(C)		14335840
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts	2b(6)		
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts	2b(7)		
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts	2b(8)		
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities	2b(9)		
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds).....	2b(10)		
c Other income.....	2c		
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	2d		16237117

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	11215063	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits	2e(2)		
(3) Other	2e(3)		
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3)	2e(4)		11215063
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions).....	2g		
h Interest expense.....	2h		
i Administrative expenses: (1) Professional fees	2i(1)		
(2) Contract administrator fees	2i(2)		
(3) Investment advisory and management fees	2i(3)		
(4) Other	2i(4)		
(5) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (4)	2i(5)		
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	2j		11215063

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		5022054
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan.....	2l(1)		
(2) From this plan	2l(2)		-5351604

Part III Accountant's Opinion

3 Complete lines 3a through 3c if the opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is attached to this Form 5500. Complete line 3d if an opinion is not attached.

a The attached opinion of an independent qualified public accountant for this plan is (see instructions):

(1) ☐ Unqualified (2) ☐ Qualified (3) ☒ Disclaimer (4) ☐ Adverse

b Did the accountant perform a limited scope audit pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 and/or 103-12(d)? ☒ Yes ☐ No

c Enter the name and EIN of the accountant (or accounting firm) below:

(1) Name: BLUE & CO LLC

(2) EIN: 35-1178661

d The opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is **not attached** because:

(1) ☐ This form is filed for a CCT, PSA, or MTIA. (2) ☐ It will be attached to the next Form 5500 pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.104-50.

Part IV Compliance Questions

- 4** CCTs and PSAs do not complete Part IV. MTIAs, 103-12 IEs, and GIAs do not complete 4a, 4e, 4f, 4g, 4h, 4k, 4m, 4n, or 5. 103-12 IEs also do not complete 4j and 4l. MTIAs also do not complete 4l.

During the plan year:

	Yes	No	Amount
a Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.).....		X	
b Were any loans by the plan or fixed income obligations due the plan in default as of the close of the plan year or classified during the year as uncollectible? Disregard participant loans secured by participant's account balance. (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part I if "Yes" is checked.).....		X	
c Were any leases to which the plan was a party in default or classified during the year as uncollectible? (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part II if "Yes" is checked.)		X	
d Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 4a. Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part III if "Yes" is checked.).....		X	
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?.....	X		15000000
f Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?		X	
g Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?		X	
h Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?		X	
i Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.).....	X		
j Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.).....		X	
k Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?.....		X	
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?		X	
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.).....		X	
n If 4m was answered "Yes," check the "Yes" box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3.			

- 5a** Has a resolution to terminate the plan been adopted during the plan year or any prior plan year?
If yes, enter the amount of any plan assets that reverted to the employer this year ☐ Yes ☒ No Amount:

- 5b** If, during this plan year, any assets or liabilities were transferred from this plan to another plan(s), identify the plan(s) to which assets or liabilities were transferred. (See instructions.)

5b(1) Name of plan(s)	5b(2) EIN(s)	5b(3) PN(s)
ASHLAND HERCULES PENSION PLAN	20-0865835	001
ASHLAND EMPLOYEE SAVINGS PLAN	20-0865835	010

SCHEDULE R (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Retirement Plan Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110
		2009
		This Form is Open to Public Inspection.

For calendar plan year 2009 or fiscal plan year beginning 10/01/2009 and ending 09/30/2010

A Name of plan <u>ASHLAND INC LEVERAGED EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <u>101</u>
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>ASHLAND INC</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>20-0865835</u>

Part I	Distributions
---------------	----------------------

All references to distributions relate only to payments of benefits during the plan year.

1 Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions.....	1
2 Enter the EIN(s) of payor(s) who paid benefits on behalf of the plan to participants or beneficiaries during the year (if more than two, enter EINs of the two payors who paid the greatest dollar amounts of benefits): EIN(s): _____ Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.	
3 Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year.....	3

Part II	Funding Information (If the plan is not subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 412 of the Internal Revenue Code or ERISA section 302, skip this Part)
----------------	--

4 Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)?.....	☐ Yes	☒ No	☐ N/A
If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.			
5 If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions and enter the date of the ruling letter granting the waiver. Date: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____ If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.			
6 a Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year	6a		
b Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year	6b		
c Subtract the amount in line 6b from the amount in line 6a. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount).....	6c		
If you completed line 6c, skip lines 8 and 9.			
7 Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 6c be met by the funding deadline?	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ N/A
8 If a change in actuarial cost method was made for this plan year pursuant to a revenue procedure providing automatic approval for the change or a class ruling letter, does the plan sponsor or plan administrator agree with the change?.....	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ N/A

Part III	Amendments
-----------------	-------------------

9 If this is a defined benefit pension plan, were any amendments adopted during this plan year that increased or decreased the value of benefits? If yes, check the appropriate box(es). If no, check the "No" box.....	☐ Increase	☐ Decrease	☐ Both	☐ No
--	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-------------------------------	-----------------------------

Part IV	ESOPs (see instructions). If this is not a plan described under Section 409(a) or 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, skip this Part.
----------------	---

10 Were unallocated employer securities or proceeds from the sale of unallocated securities used to repay any exempt loan?.....	☐ Yes	☐ No
11 a Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock?	☐ Yes	☐ No
b If the ESOP has an outstanding exempt loan with the employer as lender, is such loan part of a "back-to-back" loan? (See instructions for definition of "back-to-back" loan.)	☐ Yes	☐ No
12 Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market?	☐ Yes	☐ No

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice and OMB Control Numbers, see the instructions for Form 5500.

Schedule R (Form 5500) 2009
v.092308.1

Part V Additional Information for Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans

13 Enter the following information for each employer that contributed more than 5% of total contributions to the plan during the plan year (measured in dollars). See instructions. *Complete as many entries as needed to report all applicable employers.*

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete items 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete items 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete items 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete items 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete items 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete items 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

- 14** Enter the number of participants on whose behalf no contributions were made by an employer as an employer of the participant for:

a The current year	14a	
b The plan year immediately preceding the current plan year	14b	
c The second preceding plan year	14c	

- 15** Enter the ratio of the number of participants under the plan on whose behalf no employer had an obligation to make an employer contribution during the current plan year to:

a The corresponding number for the plan year immediately preceding the current plan year	15a	
b The corresponding number for the second preceding plan year	15b	

- 16** Information with respect to any employers who withdrew from the plan during the preceding plan year:

a Enter the number of employers who withdrew during the preceding plan year	16a	
b If item 16a is greater than 0, enter the aggregate amount of withdrawal liability assessed or estimated to be assessed against such withdrawn employers	16b	

- 17** If assets and liabilities from another plan have been transferred to or merged with this plan during the plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment. ☐

Part VI Additional Information for Single-Employer and Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans

- 18** If any liabilities to participants or their beneficiaries under the plan as of the end of the plan year consist (in whole or in part) of liabilities to such participants and beneficiaries under two or more pension plans as of immediately before such plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment. ☐

- 19** If the total number of participants is 1,000 or more, complete items (a) through (c)

a Enter the percentage of plan assets held as:
 Stock: _____% Investment-Grade Debt: _____% High-Yield Debt: _____% Real Estate: _____% Other: _____%

b Provide the average duration of the combined investment-grade and high-yield debt:
☐ 0-3 years ☐ 3-6 years ☐ 6-9 years ☐ 9-12 years ☐ 12-15 years ☐ 15-18 years ☐ 18-21 years ☐ 21 years or more

c What duration measure was used to calculate item 19(b)?
☐ Effective duration ☐ Macaulay duration ☐ Modified duration ☐ Other (specify): _____



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Plan Administrator
Ashland Inc. Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan

We were engaged to audit the accompanying financial statements and supplemental schedule of the Ashland Inc. Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan as of September 30, 2010 and 2009, and for the years then ended, as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements and supplemental schedule are the responsibility of the Plan's management.

As permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the plan administrator instructed us not to perform, and we did not perform, any auditing procedures with respect to the investment information summarized in Note 4, which was certified by Fidelity Management Trust Company, the trustee of the Plan, except for comparing such information with the related information included in the financial statements and supplemental schedule. We have been informed by the plan administrator that the trustee holds the Plan's investment assets and executes investment transactions. The plan administrator has obtained a certification from the trustee as of September 30, 2010 and 2009, and for the years then ended, that the information provided to the plan administrator by the trustee is complete and accurate.

Because of the significance of the information that we did not audit, we are unable to, and do not, express an opinion on the accompanying financial statements and supplemental schedule taken as a whole. The form and content of the information included in the financial statements and supplemental schedule, other than that derived from the investment information certified by the trustee, have been audited by us in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and, in our opinion, are presented in compliance with the Department of Labor Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

Blue & Co., LLC

July 14, 2011

Ashland Inc. Leveraged Employee
Stock Ownership Plan

Financial Statements
and
Supplemental Schedule

*Years ended September 30, 2010
and 2009 with Independent Auditor's Report*

Ashland Inc.
Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Financial Statements
and Supplemental Schedule

Years ended September 30, 2010 and 2009

Contents

Independent Auditor's Report	1
Financial Statements	
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits.....	2
Statements of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits	3
Notes to Financial Statements	4
Supplemental Schedule	
Schedule H Line 4i—Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)	13



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Plan Administrator
Ashland Inc. Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan

We were engaged to audit the accompanying financial statements and supplemental schedule of the Ashland Inc. Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan as of September 30, 2010 and 2009, and for the years then ended, as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements and supplemental schedule are the responsibility of the Plan's management.

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Because of the significance of the information that we did not audit, we are unable to, and do not, express an opinion on the accompanying financial statements and supplemental schedule taken as a whole. The form and content of the information included in the financial statements and supplemental schedule, other than that derived from the investment information certified by the trustee, have been audited by us in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and, in our opinion, are presented in compliance with the Department of Labor Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

Blue & Co., LLC

July 14, 2011

Ashland Inc.
Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits

	September 30	
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Assets		
Investments, at fair value		
Ashland Inc. common stock	\$ 125,974,407	\$ 126,374,372
Money market mutual funds	<u>221,610</u>	<u>151,388</u>
Net assets available for benefits	<u>\$ 126,196,017</u>	<u>\$ 126,525,760</u>

See accompanying notes.

Ashland Inc.
Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Statements of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits

	Years ended September 30	
	2010	2009
Additions:		
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	\$ 15,025,146	\$ 39,118,689
Dividend income	1,210,848	899,536
Interest and other income	930	15,279
Total additions	<u>16,236,924</u>	<u>40,033,504</u>
Deductions:		
Paid to participants or beneficiaries	10,004,215	1,905,498
Distributions of dividends to participants	1,210,848	899,536
Total deductions	<u>11,215,063</u>	<u>2,805,034</u>
Transfers:		
Transfers to Ashland Hercules Pension Plan	(4,498,264)	(914,778)
Transfers to Ashland Inc. Employee Savings Plan	(853,340)	(93,687)
Total transfers	<u>(5,351,604)</u>	<u>(1,008,465)</u>
Net increase (decrease) in net assets	<u>(329,743)</u>	<u>36,220,005</u>
Net assets available for benefits, beginning of year	<u>126,525,760</u>	<u>90,305,755</u>
Net assets available for benefits, end of year	<u><u>\$ 126,196,017</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 126,525,760</u></u>

See accompanying notes.

Ashland Inc.
Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

Years ended September 30, 2010 and 2009

1. Description of Plan

The following description of the Ashland Inc. Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan (LESOP) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the *Summary Plan Description* for a more complete description of the LESOP's provisions.

General

The LESOP is a defined contribution plan established as of October 1, 1985, to provide benefits to eligible salaried employees of Ashland Inc. (Ashland), the plan sponsor, and various subsidiaries meeting certain age and employment requirements. No participant contributions are permitted under the LESOP. Effective January 1, 1991, the balances of LESOP participants in Ashland's payroll-based tax credit stock ownership plan (PAYSOP) were transferred into the LESOP to become a sub-account of the LESOP. Each participant's interest in his or her PAYSOP account is separately accounted for and is nonforfeitable. The LESOP was amended as of March 31, 1996, the date of the final share allocation, to fully vest any participant with an account balance. At this time, Ashland does not intend to make any further contributions to the LESOP.

Currently cash dividends received on Ashland Inc. Common Stock are distributed quarterly to participants, however, Ashland may also direct dividends to be used to pay plan expenses or purchase additional shares.

Diversification

Participants who are age 45 or older by the end of a calendar year may elect to diversify a specified percentage of the total shares allocated to their LESOP non-offset accounts and PAYSOP sub-accounts. The LESOP non-offset accounts and PAYSOP sub-accounts consist of three parts – the LESOP non-offset account and PAYSOP sub-account, the allocable portions acquired in connection with the Arch Coal, Inc. spin-off in 2000, and the allocable portions acquired in connection with the transfer of Ashland's interest in Marathon Ashland Petroleum, LLC (MAP) to Marathon Oil Corporation on June 30, 2005.

Ashland Inc.
Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

1. Description of Plan (continued)

Diversification (continued)

The manner in which these accounts may be diversified is illustrated by the following table:

	Effective August 1, 2005 Age 45 or later
Original non-offset account	50%
Arch Coal, Inc. addition to non-offset account	100%
MAP addition to non-offset account	100%
Original PAYSOP sub-account	50%
Arch Coal, Inc. addition to PAYSOP sub-account	50%
MAP addition to PAYSOP sub-account	50%

The amount subject to diversification at any age is reduced by the number of shares previously diversified.

Diversification elections of eligible Ashland employees result in the shares subject to the election being transferred to the Ashland Inc. Common Stock Fund in the Ashland Inc. Employee Savings Plan. This transfer occurs within 90 days of the end of the LESOP plan year to which the diversification election relates. The shares so transferred may then be transferred to other available investment options in the Ashland Inc. Employee Savings Plan.

Employees who were with MAP and who are now employed with Marathon Oil Corporation that are still eligible to make diversification elections receive distributions of the amounts they elect to diversify in cash or stock. They may elect to rollover such amounts into another qualified retirement plan. Such distribution or rollover occurs within 90 days of the end of the LESOP plan year to which the diversification election relates.

Coordination of Benefits

The Ashland Hercules Pension Plan covers LESOP participants and contains provisions for coordinating the offset account of participants' account balances under the LESOP with accumulated pension benefits. Terminating participants (or their beneficiaries) may elect to receive 100% of their vested account balances under the

Ashland Inc.
Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

1. Description of Plan (continued)

Coordination of Benefits (continued)

LESOP in a single cash payment or in full shares of Ashland Common Stock (with fractional shares paid in cash). If this option is elected, participants whose pension benefits are computed under the traditional pension formula are reduced by the annuity value of their vested account balances in their offset account. If this option is elected by a participant whose pension benefit is computed under the cash balance formula (referred to as the retirement growth account) that applies to a defined set of participants effective July 1, 2003, the retirement growth account balance is reduced by the value of the vested account balance of the offset account. Alternatively, terminating participants may elect to receive their vested account balances in the non-offset account and PAYSOP subaccount in full shares of Ashland Common Stock (with fractional shares paid in cash) with no reduction in their pension benefits. If this option is elected, the values of the remaining vested offset account in the LESOP are transferred to the pension plan. If the participant holds less than 100 shares combined in the LESOP account that is not transferred to the Ashland Inc. & Affiliates Pension Plan and PAYSOP sub-account, the participant may elect to receive these account balances in cash instead of stock.

Termination of LESOP

Although it has not expressed any intention to do so, Ashland reserves the right to amend, suspend, modify, interpret or terminate the LESOP at any time. In the event of termination and after payment of all liabilities of the LESOP, the LESOP's net assets will be ratably distributed to participants based on their respective account balances.

Voting Rights

Participants may instruct the trustee on how to vote shares of Ashland Inc. Common Stock held in their LESOP account and are notified by the trustee prior to the time such rights are to be exercised. The trustee will vote fractional shares and shares for which it received no instructions in the same proportion as the voting instructions on allocated shares received from participants. Participants may also direct the trustee on how to respond if a tender offer is made for Ashland Inc. Common Stock. If no instructions are received from a participant on a tender offer it will be considered to be instruction to the trustee not to respond to the offer.

Ashland Inc.
Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

The financial statements of the LESOP are prepared on the accrual basis.

Use of Estimates

The presentation of financial statements requires management to make estimates that affect the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

Fidelity Management Trust Company (the Trustee) is the record keeper and trustee of the LESOP. Investments held by the LESOP are stated at fair value, which represents the quoted market value of Ashland Common Stock and the cost (which equals market) of short-term investments in a common/collective trust fund administered by the Trustee. Distributions paid to participants or their beneficiaries in Ashland Inc. Common Stock are recorded at market value when the transactions occur.

Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Realized gains and losses from security transactions are reported on the average cost method. Net appreciation includes the Plan's gains and losses on investments bought and sold as well as held during the year.

Forfeitures

If a participant or beneficiary entitled to the participant's account cannot be located after reasonable effort, shares in the account are forfeited. However, if such participant or beneficiary makes a proper claim prior to termination of the Plan, the number of shares forfeited will be restored unadjusted for any dividends, gains, or losses. Unallocated forfeitures as of September 30, 2010 and 2009 are approximately, \$274,000 and \$195,000, respectively.

Ashland Inc.
Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Subsequent Events

The LESOP evaluates events occurring subsequent to the date of the financial statements in determining the accounting for and disclosure of transactions and events that affect the financial statements. Subsequent events have been evaluated through July 14, 2011, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

3. Transactions with Related Parties

The LESOP is not charged for administrative services performed on its behalf by Ashland. Currently although not required, all expenses related to maintaining the Plan are paid by Ashland. The Plan's investments in Ashland Common Stock and related income are disclosed elsewhere in the notes to the financial statements.

4. Investments

All investment information disclosed in the accompanying financial statements and supplemental schedule, including investments held at September 30, 2010 and 2009, dividend income on Ashland Common Stock, interest income, and net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of Ashland Common Stock for the years ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, were obtained or derived from information supplied to Ashland and certified as complete and accurate by the Trustee.

The following presents investments that represent 5 percent or more of the LESOP's net assets:

	Ashland Inc. Common Stock			
	Number of Allocated Shares	Fair Value	Cost	Appreciation In Fair Value
September 30, 2010	2,583,031*	\$125,974,407	\$ 51,942,322	\$ 15,025,146
September 30, 2009	2,923,979*	\$126,374,372	\$ 58,922,070	\$ 39,118,689

* Nonparticipant-directed

Ashland Inc.
Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

4. Investments (continued)

A comparison of the average per share amounts for fair market value and cost follows:

	September 30	
	2010	2009
Market value per share	\$ 48.77	\$ 43.22
Average cost per share	\$ 20.11	\$ 20.15

5. Fair Value Measurements

The Plan's investments are recorded at fair value in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*. ASC 820 establishes a framework for measuring fair value. That framework provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value, summarized below:

Level 1: Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the Plan has the ability to access.

Level 2: Inputs to the valuation methodology include:

- Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
- Quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets;
- Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability;
- Inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.

If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

Level 3: Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

Ashland Inc.
Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

5. Fair Value Measurements (continued)

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodologies used as of September 30, 2010:

Common stock: Valued at the closing price reported on the active market on which the individual securities are traded.

Money market mutual fund: Valued at the net asset value per unit held by the Plan at year end as quoted by the funds.

The preceding methods described may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, although the Plan believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

Financial assets and liabilities are classified based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The Plan's assessment of the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement requires judgment, and may affect the valuation of the fair value of assets and liabilities and their placement within the fair value hierarchy levels.

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets at fair value as of September 30, 2010:

	Fair Value	Fair Value Determination Basis		
		Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Common stock	\$ 125,974,407	\$ 125,974,407	\$ -	\$ -
Money market mutual funds	221,610	221,610	-	-
Total	\$ 126,196,017	\$ 126,196,017	\$ -	\$ -

Ashland Inc.
Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

5. Fair Value Measurements (continued)

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets at fair value as of September 30, 2009:

	Fair Value	Fair Value Determination Basis		
		Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Common stock	\$ 126,374,372	\$ 126,374,372	\$ -	\$ -
Money market mutual funds	<u>151,388</u>	<u>151,388</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>\$ 126,525,760</u>	<u>\$ 126,525,760</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

6. Differences between Financial Statements and Form 5500

The following is a reconciliation of benefits paid to participants according to the financial statements to Form 5500 for the year ended September 30:

	<u>2010</u>
Benefits paid to participants or beneficiaries per the financial statements	\$ 10,004,215
Add: Distributions of dividends to participants per the financial statements	<u>1,210,848</u>
Benefits paid to participants per Form 5500	<u>\$ 11,215,063</u>

There is no difference in the net assets available for benefits presented in the financial statements and the Form 5500.

Ashland Inc.
Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

7. Income Tax Status

The Internal Revenue Service ruled on January 13, 2003, that the LESOP qualifies under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) and, therefore, the related trust is exempt from taxation. Although the Plan has been amended since receiving the determination letter, the Plan administrator and the Plan's tax counsel believe that the Plan is designed and is currently being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC.

8. Risks and Uncertainties

The Plan's investments consist primarily of Ashland Inc. Common Stock. Ashland's common stock is exposed to market risk. It is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of the Ashland's common stock will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the statement of net assets available for benefits.

Supplemental Schedule

Ashland Inc.
Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Schedule H Line 4i—Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)
EIN: 20 - 0865835 Plan Number: 101

September 30, 2010

(a)	(b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor or similar party	(c) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value	(d) Cost	(e) Current value
*	Ashland Inc. Common Stock	2,583,031 shares, par value \$.01	\$ 51,942,322	\$ 125,974,407
*	Fidelity Retirement Government Money Market	220,896 shares	\$ 220,896	\$ 220,896
*	Stock Purchase Account (1)	714 shares	\$ 714	\$ 714

* Indicates party-in-interest to the plan.

(1) The Stock Purchase Account which is used as a plan-level account in the recordkeeping of the purchases and sales of fractional shares of employer stock invests in Fidelity Cash Reserves, a money market fund. Participants cannot invest their account balances in the Stock Purchase Account.

Ashland Inc.
Leveraged Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Schedule H Line 4i—Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

EIN: 20 - 0865835

Plan Number: 101

September 30, 2010

(a)	(b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor or similar party	(c) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value	(d) Cost	(e) Current value
*	Ashland Inc. Common Stock	2,583,031 shares, par value \$.01	\$ 51,942,322	\$ 125,974,407
*	Fidelity Retirement Government Money Market	220,896 shares	\$ 220,896	\$ 220,896
*	Stock Purchase Account (1)	714 shares	\$ 714	\$ 714

* Indicates party-in-interest to the plan.

(1) The Stock Purchase Account which is used as a plan-level account in the recordkeeping of the purchases and sales of fractional shares of employer stock invests in Fidelity Cash Reserves, a money market fund. Participants cannot invest their account balances in the Stock Purchase Account.