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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Ashland Distribution's new thermoplastics processing guide is a ready reference**

DUBLIN, Ohio – Plastics processing can be a complex science, but with help from Ashland Distribution, a commercial unit of Ashland Inc. (NYSE:ASH), that complexity is being reduced. The sixth edition of Ashland's Thermoplastics Processing Guide is now available as a handy reference handbook.

This edition contains information from the previous versions and includes new information intended to help customers better understand thermoplastics processing. A section on the screw, an essential element to any thermoplastics process, has been added along with information about material properties, drying and hopper design.

"This latest edition further builds on the foundation that was laid out when Ashland first began offering this handbook a number of years ago," said Pierre Dumas, senior technical service representative for Ashland Distribution in Mississauga, Ontario. "Unlike previous editions, which were primarily troubleshooting tools for experienced processors, this one is designed to be used as a teaching tool for new employees as well as a helpful guide." In editing the guide, Dumas used input from fellow technical service representatives from Ashland and from select suppliers.

The guide contains sections on safety, drying, equipment, materials and properties. The troubleshooting function remains, but now includes expanded content on profile extrusion, extrusion blow molding and rotational molding. There is also information on melt temperature measurement, injection molding and industry acronyms and definitions.

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The Thermoplastics Processing Guide is only one part of Ashland Distribution's commitment to its customers. Ashland employs technical service representatives who offer services from process optimization and troubleshooting assistance to in-house training seminars. To inquire about the Ashland Distribution Thermoplastics Processing Guide please contact a local Ashland Distribution sales representative.

Ashland Distribution, a commercial unit of Ashland Inc., distributes chemicals, plastics and composite raw materials in North America, as well as plastics in Europe and China. Ashland Distribution also provides environmental services in North America, including hazardous and non-hazardous waste collection, recovery, recycling and disposal services.

Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH) provides specialty chemical products, services and solutions for many of the world's most essential needs and industries. Serving customers in more than 100 countries, it operates through five commercial units: Ashland Aqualon Functional Ingredients, Ashland Hercules Water Technologies, Ashland Performance Materials, Ashland Consumer Markets (Valvoline) and Ashland Distribution. To learn more about Ashland, visit [www.ashland.com](http://www.ashland.com).