



May 20, 2013

Ashland Specialty Ingredients to open new technical support center in The Woodlands, Texas to support oil and gas customers

New research and development lab will include cutting-edge technology for water-soluble polymers

WILMINGTON, Del. - Ashland Specialty Ingredients, a commercial unit of Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH), today announced the opening of a new research and development laboratory in The Woodlands, Texas. The 6,000 square foot facility will serve as Ashland's technical support center for the oil and gas industry and will join Ashland's worldwide network of R&D and technical centers.

Ashland is a recognized leader in water-soluble polymers used by oil and gas service companies to produce drilling fluids, drill-in fluids, oil-well cement slurries, completion and work-over fluids, fracturing fluids and production systems. Products include synthetic, cellulose and guar-based products as well as Techwax™ additives for invert drilling muds.

"With the addition of this new laboratory in The Woodlands, we will be in position to collaborate more efficiently and effectively with oil and gas customers in the region," said Zissis Pappas, ASI vice president Oil and Gas Technologies. "As the industry continues to evolve, we must be ready to deliver innovative solutions and support to help our customers succeed and grow."

The new laboratory is outfitted with cutting-edge technology and equipment that can accommodate all major applications associated with the upstream oil and gas industry. Staffed with industry experts, the lab will ensure that Ashland's customers continue to receive the high level of technical support to which they've grown accustomed, and open doors to promising new opportunities.

"This new lab will enhance Ashland's ability to deliver best-in-class innovation to our oil and gas customers by providing the highest level of technical support for customers," said May Shana'a, group vice president, Technology and Growth Strategy.

About Ashland Specialty Ingredients

Ashland Specialty Ingredients offers industry-leading products, technologies and resources for solving formulation and product performance challenges in key markets including personal care, pharmaceutical, food and beverage, coatings and energy. Using natural, synthetic and semi-synthetic polymers derived from plant and seed extract, cellulose ethers and vinyl pyrrolidones, Ashland Specialty Ingredients offers comprehensive and innovative solutions for today's demanding consumer and industrial applications.

About Ashland Inc.

In more than 100 countries, the people of Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH) provide the specialty chemicals, technologies and insights to help customers create new and improved products for today and sustainable solutions for tomorrow. Our chemistry is at work every day in a wide variety of markets and applications, including architectural coatings, automotive, construction, energy, food and beverage, personal care, pharmaceutical, tissue and towel, and water treatment. Visit ashland.com to see the innovations we offer through our four commercial units - Ashland Specialty Ingredients, Ashland Water Technologies, Ashland Performance Materials and Ashland Consumer Markets.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Ashland Specialty Ingredients

Media Relations

Lisa Porter

+1 (973) 628-3898

lporter@ashland.com