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## **Ashland to increase global prices for phosphate ester products**

DUBLIN, Ohio – Ashland Aqualon Functional Ingredients, a commercial unit of Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH), is increasing the global price of its Dextrol™ and Strodex™ phosphate ester surfactants by 5 to 9 percent effective immediately or as early as contracts allow.

The pricing action is necessary to offset rising prices for freight and key raw materials used to manufacture these products. Responding to changing market conditions allows Ashland to continue to invest in new capacity and product innovation.

Ashland Aqualon Functional Ingredients is the global leader in the production of products that manage the physical properties of water-based systems. Its products perform in a variety of applications, including thickening and rheology control; water retention; adhesive strength; binding power; film formation; conditioning and deposition; colloid stabilization; suspending; and emulsifying action.

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, personal care, pharmaceutical, tissue and towel, and water treatment. Visit [www.ashland.com](http://www.ashland.com) to see the innovations we offer through our four commercial units – Ashland Aqualon Functional Ingredients, Ashland Hercules Water Technologies, Ashland Performance Materials and Ashland Consumer Markets (Valvoline).

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