



## **Ashland Inc. Chairman and CEO O'Brien Speaks at Goldman Sachs Basic Materials Conference**

COVINGTON, Ky., May 13 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- James J. O'Brien, chairman and chief executive officer, Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH), will make a presentation at the Goldman Sachs Basic Materials Conference in New York City on Wednesday, May 21, 2008, at 4:20 p.m. (EDT). In his remarks, O'Brien will update analysts on performance of Ashland's businesses, priorities and strategies.

An audio webcast will be presented live and can be accessed, along with supporting materials, through the Ashland Inc. website at [www.ashland.com](http://www.ashland.com). The replay will be available within 24 hours of the live presentation and will be archived on Ashland's website for six months. Supporting materials will be available for 12 months. Copies of the presentation can also be requested by sending an e-mail to [investor\\_relations@ashland.com](mailto:investor_relations@ashland.com), or by calling 859-815- 4454.

Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH), a diversified, global chemical company, provides quality products, services and solutions to customers in more than 100 countries. A FORTUNE 500 company, it operates through four divisions: Ashland Performance Materials, Ashland Distribution, Valvoline and Ashland Water Technologies. To learn more about Ashland, visit [www.ashland.com](http://www.ashland.com).

FORTUNE 500 is a registered trademark of Time Inc.

SOURCE: Ashland Inc.

CONTACT:

Media Relations:

Jim Vitak

+1-614-790-3715

[jevitak@ashland.com](mailto:jevitak@ashland.com)

Investor Relations:

Eric Boni

+1-859-815-4454

[enboni@ashland.com](mailto:enboni@ashland.com)

both for Ashland Inc.

"Safe Harbor" Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995: Statements in this press release regarding Ashland's business which are not historical facts are "forward-looking statements" that involve risks and uncertainties. For a discussion of such risks and uncertainties, which could cause actual results to differ from those contained in the forward-looking statements, see "Risk Factors" in the Company's Annual Report or Form 10-K for the most recently ended fiscal year.