

April 9, 2012

Ashland to increase prices for adhesives and coatings sold into packaging and converting market in North America

DUBLIN, Ohio - Effective April 19, or as contracts allow, Ashland Performance Materials, a commercial unit of Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH), will increase North American prices up to 15 percent for its portfolio of adhesives and coatings sold into the packaging and converting market. Customers should contact their Ashland salesperson for specific details.

"This action is necessary in this challenging period due to the increased cost of key raw materials and escalating costs for petrochemicals and major feed stocks," said David Hatgas, director, product management, Ashland Performance Materials. "Responding to changing market conditions allows Ashland to continue to provide innovative products and industry-leading support to our customers."

Ashland Performance Materials is the global leader in unsaturated polyester resins and vinyl ester resins. In addition, it provides customers with leading technologies in gelcoats, pressure-sensitive and structural adhesives, coatings and elastomers.

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 www.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:

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