

JOINT FILING AGREEMENT

Each of the undersigned hereby agrees that the Schedule 13G filed herewith is filed jointly, pursuant to Rule 13d-1(f)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended on behalf of each of them.

Dated: February 14, 2005

AXA Financial, Inc.

BY: /s/ Alvin H. Fenichel

Alvin H. Fenichel
Senior Vice President and Controller

AXA Assurances I.A.R.D. Mutuelle; AXA Assurances Vie Mutuelle; AXA Courtage Assurance Mutuelle, as a group, and AXA

Signed on behalf of each of the above entities

BY: /s/ Alvin H. Fenichel

Alvin H. Fenichel
Attorney-in-Fact
(Executed pursuant to Powers of Attorney)

February 14, 2005

Filer Support
Securities and Exchange Commission
6432 General Green Way
Alexandria, VA 22312

Re: Schedule 13G
ASHLAND INC
As of: December 31, 2004
Amendment No. 4

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In accordance with Section 13(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act"), attached is a final Schedule 13G for the above named company showing beneficial ownership of less than five percent as of December 31, 2004

This Schedule 13G is being filed jointly, pursuant to Rule 13d-1(f)(1) of the Exchange Act, on behalf of AXA Financial, Inc.; three French mutual insurance companies, AXA Assurances I.A.R.D. Mutuelle, AXA Assurances Vie Mutuelle, and AXA Courtage Assurance Mutuelle (collectively, the "Mutuelles AXA"), as a group; AXA; and their subsidiaries.

If you have any questions about this filing, please contact Dean Dubovy at (212) 314-5528.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Alvin H. Fenichel

Alvin H. Fenichel
Senior Vice President
and Controller

cc: Corporate Secretary

ASHLAND INC
50 E. RiverCenter Blvd
Covington, KY 41012