News Release

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:
Media Relations
Ken Gordon
614-790-1832
kdgordon@ashland.com

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Ashland selected to supply resin for DoE, University of Maine wind energy project

DUBLIN, Ohio – Ashland Performance Materials, a commercial unit of Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH), will join a consortium of companies and university experts to develop, deploy and test three wind turbines off the Maine coastline. A recent announcement by the U.S. Department of Energy awarded $8 million to the University of Maine for offshore, deepwater wind energy research, and Ashland was selected as a partner in this program.

"We are looking forward to this collaborative effort. As the sole resin supplier to this project, we were pleased to have our efforts in resin science and development recognized by the University of Maine," said Ruben Bake, global marketing director, Ashland Performance Materials.

The consortium's research and development plan will optimize materials and designs for deep-water floating platforms. The group will investigate options for using lighter, corrosion-resistant hybrid composite materials, evaluate the ease of manufacturing various turbine components, and explore how best to deploy such platforms. To learn more about Ashland resins for wind energy construction, contact Cedric Ball, program manager at (614) 790-4161, or by e-mail at caball@ashland.com.

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, and metal casting consumables and design services.

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Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH) provides specialty chemical products, services and solutions for many of the world's most essential needs and industries. Serving customers in more than 100 countries, it operates through five commercial units: Ashland Aqualon Functional Ingredients, Ashland Hercules Water Technologies, Ashland Performance Materials, Ashland Consumer Markets (Valvoline) and Ashland Distribution. To learn more about Ashland, visit www.ashland.com.

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