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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Ashland Distribution to now market  
Hercules Specialty Resins products**

DUBLIN, Ohio – Ashland Distribution, a commercial unit of Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH), today will begin to distribute the Hercules Specialty Resins product group of Ashland Aqualon Functional Ingredients (AAFI), to serve markets including adhesives, coatings, plastics and others.

“This move brings the power of a much larger distribution network to this product line,” said David Pekala, logistics manager, AAFI. “Ashland Distribution is well known in the industry for providing a high level of customer service, and they back that service with the logistical muscle of more than 60 North American warehouse locations.”

Hercules Specialty Resins products now available from Ashland Distribution include Foral<sup>®</sup>, Staybelite<sup>®</sup>, Pentalyne<sup>®</sup>, Herculyn<sup>®</sup> and Piccolyte<sup>®</sup> resins for pressure-sensitive adhesives, inks, coatings, rubber, plastics, adjuvants, and other specialty applications.

“We are looking forward to representing Hercules Specialty Resins,” said Tony Gutierrez, product manager, specialty chemicals, Ashland Distribution. “Our commitment to on-time and accurate delivery, coupled with the great overlap in target markets and specialty applications, makes this all-natural products line a perfect fit for our organization.”

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Ashland Distribution is a leading distributor of plastics in North America. A commercial unit of Ashland Inc., it distributes chemicals, plastics and composite raw materials in North America, as well as plastics in Europe and China. Ashland Distribution also provides environmental services in North America, including hazardous and nonhazardous waste collection, recovery, recycling and disposal services.

Ashland Aqualon Functional Ingredients, a commercial unit of Ashland Inc., is a global leader in the production of cellulose ethers and the only producer of refined wood rosin and wood rosin derivatives from stumpwood extracts. Most of its specialty additives and functional ingredients are derived from renewable and natural raw materials and are used to manage the physical properties of aqueous and non-aqueous systems in a wide variety of applications and industries.

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](http://www.ashland.com).

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