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New AquaSolve™ HPMCAS to expand Ashland's broad cellulose and PVP excipients range

WILMINGTON, Del. - Are you a solid dosage formulator working on poorly soluble pharmaceutical actives? Are you looking for swift and tailored solutions to identify the best solubilization option for your active pharmaceutical ingredient (API)?

Ashland is one of the world leaders in oral solid-dosage forms providing technical expertise combined with the broadest portfolio of enabling excipients. To build on this position and expand its Aquarius™ film coating system and solubility offerings Ashland Specialty Ingredients, a commercial unit of Ashland Inc. (NYSE:ASH), will be launching AquaSolve™ (AquaSolve AS in the UK) hypromellose acetate succinate (HPMCAS) on this year's American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists Annual Meeting and Exposition (AAPS), taking place in San Antonio, Texas, November 10-14, 2013.

AquaSolve HPMCAS was initially developed for enteric film coatings to provide gastric resistance. More recently, it has been explored in solid solutions prepared by hot-melt extrusion and spray drying, which significantly improves the solubility of APIs.

"AquaSolve HPMCAS represents the latest advancement in solubilization solutions from Ashland," explained John Carney, global sales director, Ashland Pharmaceutical Specialties. "Going forward, we will be developing new products to meet our customers' evolving needs, such as tailored molecules ideally suited to specific candidate APIs."

Ashland's strength - broad solubilization portfolio in both the cellulose and polyvinylpyrrolidone (PVP) families

The advantage that Ashland brings to the table is its unprecedented range of cellulose derivatives and PVP polymers globally, making Ashland a global leader in drug solubilization.

"Many companies specialize and have strong offerings in either cellulose or PVP products," explains John Fitzpatrick, new product leader, Ashland Pharmaceutical Specialties. "But Ashland can offer both. We have expertise in formulating with both families of polymers; thus we can enable our customers to find the best of all possible solutions in either area. We can partner with formulators to help them evaluate the applicability of the broadest range of compounds and solid dispersion processes."

Excellent global and regional technical support

Ashland's leading position in drug solubilization is underscored by its broad network of technical support and laboratories down to the regional level. The company operates a center of excellence in Columbia, Maryland (USA), and regional supporting laboratories in Wilmington, Del. (USA); Düsseldorf, Germany; Hyderabad, India; Istanbul, Turkey; São Paulo, Brazil; Buenos Aires, Argentina and Shanghai, China.

"Our broad portfolio of excipients, our deep knowledge of formulating both cellulosic and PVP products paired with our excellent regional technical support expertise makes Ashland the provider of choice for formulators of solid dosage forms," stated Carney.

Find out more about Ashland's products, services and expertise, **visit us at Booth 3023** at AAPS in San Antonio, November 10-14, 2013; contact us at pharmaceutical@ashland.com or visit our [website](http://www.ashland.com). We will also be exhibiting at SupplySide West in Las Vegas, Nev. November 14-15 in Booth 32044.

About Ashland Specialty Ingredients

Ashland Specialty Ingredients offers industry-leading products, technologies and resources for solving formulation and product performance challenges in key markets including personal care, pharmaceutical, food and beverage, coatings and energy. Using natural, synthetic and semi-synthetic polymers derived from plant and seed extract, cellulose ethers and vinyl pyrrolidones, Ashland Specialty Ingredients offers comprehensive and innovative solutions for today's demanding consumer and industrial applications.

About Ashland Inc.

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 [ashland.com](http://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.

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