# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

# **SCHEDULE 14A**

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. )

Filed by the Registrant  $\hat{a}$ 

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant  $\hat{a}$ 

| Chec | k the a  | appropriate box:  |  |
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| â~∏  | Preli  | minary Proxy Statement  |  |
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| â~∐  | Defir  | nitive Proxy Statement  |  |
| â~'  | Defir  | nitive Additional Materials   |  |
| â~∏  | Solic  | iting Material under Rule 14a-12  |  |
|      |  | ASHLAND GLOBAL HOLDINGS INC. (Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)   |  |
|      |  | (Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)  |  |
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Attached as Exhibit 1 is a letter distributed on January 22, 2019 by Ashland Global Holdings Inc. to its employees.



January 22, 2019

#### Ashland Team:

We recently announced that Ashland has reached an agreement with one of our shareholders, Cruiser Capital, with respect to our upcoming Annual Stockholder Meeting scheduled for February 8, 2019. This announcement is a very favorable outcome for Ashland. As a result, we can return our full attention to executing on our transformation and achieving our financial and operational objectives.

As you all know, Ashland has a history of regular, consistent engagement with shareholders and this announcement is a continuation of these efforts. As part of our agreement, the company will appoint Dr. William H. Joyce, retired former chairman and chief executive officer of Nalco, Hercules Inc. and Union Carbide Corporation, and vice chairman of Dow Chemical, as a consultant to the company on operations-related matters. Bill's strong background in the chemicals industry makes him well-suited for this role, and we look forward to benefitting from his insights and perspectives to further enhance Ashland's operations.

Ashland previously announced that it will work closely with Neuberger Berman and other shareholders in a search for two new independent directors to be appointed to the Ashland board. We will also consult with Cruiser Capital on this process. Cruiser Capital has expressed its support of Ashland and will withdraw its slate of director nominees and vote for each of Ashland's board nominees and proposals at the 2019 Annual Meeting.

Today's announcements may result in increased media attention about our company and, as always, it is important we speak with one voice. Consistent with company policy, please forward any media inquiries to Joy Brock at jlbrock@ashland.com or (859) 815-3793. Investor inquiries should be forwarded to Seth Mrozek at (859) 815-3527 or samrozek@ashland.com.

I am confident that in the year ahead we will continue to make substantial and tangible progress in our transformation into a leaner, more cost-competitive and growth-oriented specialty chemicals company.

On behalf of the board and management team, thank you for your continued focus, dedication and support.

Sincerely,

#### FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This communication contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Ashland has identified some of these forward-looking statements with words such as "anticipates,†â€œbelieves,†â€œexpects,†â€œextimates,†â€œis likely,†â€œpredicts,†â€œprojects,†â€œprojects,†â€œexpects,†â€œexpects,†â€œexpects,†â€œexpects,†â€œexpects,†â€œexpects,†â€œexpects,†â€œexpects,†â€œexpects,†â€œexpects,†â€œexpects,†and "intends†and the negative of these words or other comparable terminology. Ashland may from time to time make forward-looking statements in its annual reports, quarterly reports and other filings with the SEC, news releases and other written and oral communications. These forward-looking statements are based on Ashland's expectations and assumptions, as of the date such statements are made, regarding Ashland's future operating performance and financial condition, as well as the economy and other future events or circumstances. These statements include, but may not be limited to, Ashland's assessment on its progress towards executing its strategic plan and becoming a premier specialty chemicals company and its expectations regarding its ability to drive value creation and sales and earnings growth and realize further cost reductions.

Ashland's expectations and assumptions include, without limitation, internal forecasts and analyses of current and future market conditions and trends, management plans and strategies, operating efficiencies and economic conditions (such as prices, supply and demand, cost of raw materials, and the ability to recover raw-material cost increases through price increases), and risks and uncertainties associated with the following: the program to eliminate certain existing corporate and Specialty Ingredients expenses (including the possibility that such cost eliminations may not occur or may take longer to implement than anticipated), the expected divestiture of its Composites segment and the Marl BDO facility, and related merchant I&S products (including, in each case, the possibility that a transaction may not occur or that, if a transaction does occur, Ashland may not realize the anticipated benefits from such transaction), the impact of acquisitions and/or divestitures Ashland has made or may make, including the acquisition of Pharmachem (including the possibility that Ashland may not realize the anticipated benefits from such transactions); Ashland〙s substantial indebtedness (including the possibility that such indebtedness and related restrictive covenants may adversely affect Ashland's future cash flows, results of operations, financial condition and its ability to repay debt); Ashland's ability to generate sufficient cash to finance its stock repurchase plans; severe weather, natural disasters, cyber events and legal proceedings and claims (including product recalls, environmental and asbestos matters); and without limitation, risks and uncertainties affecting Ashland that are described in Ashland's most recent Form 10-K (including Item 1A Risk Factors) filed with the SEC, which is available on Ashland's website at http://investor.ashland.com or on the SEC's website at http://www.sec.gov. Various risks and uncertainties may cause actual results to differ materially from those stated, projected or implied by any forward-looking statements. Ashland believes its expectations and assumptions are reasonable, but there can be no assurance that the expectations reflected herein will be achieved. Unless legally required, Ashland undertakes no obligation to update any forward-looking statements made in this communication whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

On January 2, 2019, Ashland filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SECâ€□) a definitive proxy statement on Schedule 14A (the "proxy statementâ€□) and blue proxy card in connection with its 2019 Annual Meeting, which is available free of charge at the SEC's website at www.sec.gov and Ashland's website at http://investor.ashland.com. BEFORE MAKING ANY VOTING DECISION, INVESTORS AND SECURITY HOLDERS ARE URGED TO READ ALL RELEVANT DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING ASHLAND'S PROXY STATEMENT AND ANY AMENDMENTS THERETO AND ACCOMPANYING BLUE PROXY CARD, FILED WITH OR FURNISHED TO THE SEC BECAUSE THEY CONTAIN, OR WILL CONTAIN, IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT ASHLAND.

## **CERTAIN INFORMATION REGARDING PARTICIPANTS**

Ashland, its directors, director nominees and certain of its officers, including William A. Wulfsohn, Brendan Cummins, William G. Dempsey, Jay V. Ihlenfeld, Susan L. Main, Jerome A. Peribere, Barry W. Perry, Craig A. Rogerson, Mark C. Rohr, Janice J. Teal, Michael J. Ward, Kathleen Wilson-Thompson, J. Kevin Willis, Peter J. Ganz and Seth A. Mrozek, will be participants in the solicitation of proxies from stockholders in respect of the 2019 Annual Meeting of Stockholders. Information regarding the ownership of the Company's directors and executive officers in the company by security holdings or otherwise is included in Ashland's proxy statement for the 2019 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which was filed with the SEC on January 2, 2019. To the extent holdings of Ashland securities have changed since the amounts printed in the proxy statement for the 2019 Annual Meeting, such changes have been or will be reflected on Statements of Change in Ownership on Form 4 filed with the SEC. Stockholders may obtain free copies of the proxy statement and other relevant documents that Ashland files with the SEC on Ashland's website at http://investor.ashland.com or from the SEC's website at www.sec.gov.