

ASHLAND INC.  
Form 8-K  
October 21, 2008

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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of  
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of report (Date of earliest event reported): October 21, 2008

ASHLAND INC.  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Kentucky  
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

1-32532  
(Commission File Number)

20-0865835  
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

50 E. RiverCenter Boulevard, Covington, Kentucky 41011  
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

P.O. Box 391, Covington, Kentucky 41012-0391  
(Mailing Address) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (859) 815-3333

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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Item 2.02. Results of Operations and Financial Condition

On October 21, 2008, Ashland Inc. (“Ashland”) announced preliminary guidance for its fiscal fourth quarter ended September 30, 2008.

Ashland plans to report preliminary results for its fiscal fourth quarter at 7:00 a.m., EDT, on October 28, 2008.

Ashland’s earnings expectations and related matters are discussed in more detail in the press release attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1, which is incorporated by reference into this Item 2.02.

Item  
9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits  
99.1 Press Release dated October 21, 2008.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

ASHLAND INC.  
(Registrant)

October 21, 2008

/s/ Lamar M. Chambers  
Lamar M. Chambers  
Senior Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

99.1 Press Release dated October 21, 2008.