

ASHLAND INC.  
Form 8-K  
March 17, 2011

---

---

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): March 16, 2011

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  
P.O. Box 391  
Covington, Kentucky 41012-0391  
Registrant's telephone number (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))
- 
-

Item 8.01. Other Events

Today, Ashland Inc. (“Ashland”) announced that James J. O’Brien, Ashland’s Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, will undergo surgery to repair a perforated colon resulting from diverticulitis. Throughout his recovery, Mr. O’Brien will be available on a limited basis. Mr. O’Brien is expected to return to his full duties in approximately two to three months. During this period, Mr. O’Brien’s chairman duties will be assumed by Mr. Barry W. Perry, Lead Independent Director of Ashland’s Board; and his executive duties will be assumed jointly by Lamar M. Chambers, Ashland’s Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, and David L. Hausrath, Ashland’s Senior Vice President and General Counsel.

The news release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated by reference herein.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d)	Exhibits
Exhibit	Description
99.1	News Release dated March 16, 2011.

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 hereunto duly authorized.

ASHLAND INC.  
(Registrant)

March 16, 2011

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

-3-

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit	Description
99.1	News Release dated March 16, 2011.