ASHLAND INC Form SC 13G February 12, 2001

Page 1 of 13 Pages

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

SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

() *

ASHLAND INC

(NAME OF ISSUER)

COM

(TITLE OF CLASS OF SECURITIES)

044204105

(CUSIP NUMBER)

December 31, 2000

(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

X Rule 13d-1(b) Rule 13d-1(c) Rule 13d-1(d)

* The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be 'filed' for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ('Act') or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

(CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE(S))

CUSIP NO. 044204105

13G

Page 2 of 13 Pages

1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

AXA Assurances I.A.R.D. Mutuelle

2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP * (A) [X]

(B) []

3. SEC USE ONLY

4. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION France	
NUMBER OF SHARES 5. SOLE VOTING PO BENEFICIALLY	OWER 3,726,320
OWNED AS OF 6. SHARED VOTING December 31, 2000	POWER 205,539
BY EACH 7. SOLE DISPOSIT: REPORTING	IVE POWER 4,987,580
PERSON WITH: 8. SHARED DISPOS	ITIVE POWER 1,156,300
9. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED I REPORTING PERSON (Not to be construed as an admiss)	6,143,880
10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN SHARES *	ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN []
11. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUN	NT IN ROW 9 8.8%
12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON * IC	
* SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEI	FORE FILLING OUT!
CUSIP NO. 044204105 13G	Page 3 of 13 Pages
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ТC * SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT! CUSIP NO. 044204105 13G Page 4 of 13 Pages 1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON AXA Conseil Vie Assurance Mutuelle 2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP * (A) [X] (B) [] 3. SEC USE ONLY 4. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION France NUMBER OF SHARES 5. SOLE VOTING POWER 3,726,320 BENEFICIALLY OWNED AS OF 6. SHARED VOTING POWER 205,539 December 31, 2000 BY EACH 7. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER 4,987,580 REPORTING PERSON WITH: 8. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 1,156,300 9. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 6,143,880 (Not to be construed as an admission of beneficial ownership) 10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES * [] 11. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 8.8% 12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON * IC * SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT! CUSIP NO. 044204105 13G Page 5 of 13 Pages 1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON AXA Courtage Assurance Mutuelle 2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP * (A) [X] (B) [] 3. SEC USE ONLY 4. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION France NUMBER OF SHARES 5. SOLE VOTING POWER 3,726,320 BENEFICIALLY OWNED AS OF 6. SHARED VOTING POWER December 31, 2000 205,539

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CUSIP NO. 04420410	05 13G	Page 6 of 13 Pages
1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON		
AXA		
2. CHECK THE APPROPE	RIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP *	(A) [X] (B) []
3. SEC USE ONLY		
4 CITIZENSHIP OR PI	LACE OF ORGANIZATION	
France		
France NUMBER OF SHARES	5. SOLE VOTING POWER	3,726,320
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I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

AXA FINANCIAL, INC. 13-3623351 2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP * (A) [] (B) [] 3. SEC USE ONLY 4. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION State of Delaware NUMBER OF SHARES 5. SOLE VOTING POWER 2,992,020 OWNED AS OF 6. SHARED VOTING POWER December 31, 2000 BENEFICIALLY 205,539 7. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER BY EACH 4,965,680 REPORTING PERSON WITH: 8. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 0 9. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 4,965,680 (Not to be construed as an admission of beneficial ownership) 10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES * [] 11. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9 7.1% 12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON * HC * SEE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE FILLING OUT! Page 8 of 13 Pages Item 1(a) Name of Issuer: ASHLAND INC Item 1(b) Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices: 50 E Rivercenter Blvd Covington, KY 41012 Item 2(a) and (b) Name of Person Filing and Address of Principal Business Office: AXA Conseil Vie Assurance Mutuelle, AXA Assurances I.A.R.D Mutuelle, and AXA Assurances Vie Mutuelle 370, rue Saint Honore 75001 Paris, France AXA Courtage Assurance Mutuelle 26, rue Louis le Grand 75002 Paris, France as a group (collectively, the 'Mutuelles AXA'). AXA 25, avenue Matignon 75008 Paris, France AXA Financial, Inc.

1290 Avenue of the Americas New York, New York 10104 (Please contact Patrick Meehan at (212) 314-5644 with any questions.) Page 9 of 13 Pages Item 2(c) Citizenship: Mutuelles AXA and AXA - France AXA Financial, Inc. - Delaware Item 2(d) Title of Class of Securities: COM Item 2(e) CUSIP Number: 044204105 Item 3. Type of Reporting Person: AXA Financial, Inc. as a parent holding company, in accordance with 240.13d-1 (b)(ii)(G). The Mutuelles AXA, as a group, acting as a parent holding company. AXA as a parent holding company. Page 10 of 13 Pages Item 4. Ownership as of December 31, 2000: (a) Amount Beneficially Owned: 6,143,880 shares of common stock beneficially owned including: No. of Shares _____ 0 The Mutuelles AXA, as a group 0 AXA AXA Entity or Entities: AXA Colonia Konzern AG (Germany) 21,900 AXA Rosenberg (U.S.) 1,156,300 Common Stock acquired solely for investment purposes. 0 AXA Financial, Inc. Subsidiaries: Alliance Capital Management L.P. acquired solely for investment purposes on behalf of client discretionary investment advisory accounts: Common Stock 4,964,880 4,964,880 _____ The Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States acquired solely for investment purposes. Common Stock 800 800 -----Total 6,143,880 _____ Each of the Mutuelles AXA, as a group, and AXA expressly declares that the

filing of this Schedule 13G shall not be construed as an admission that it is, for purposes of Section 13(d) of the Exchange Act, the beneficial owner of any securities covered by this Schedule 13G.

Each of the above subsidiaries of AXA Financial, Inc. operates under independent management and makes independent decisions.

(b) Percent of Class: 8.8% _____ ITEM 4. Ownership as of 12/31/2000(CONT.) Page 11 of 13 Pages (c) Deemed Voting Power and Disposition Power: (i)(ii)(iv)DeemedDeemedDeemedto haveto haveto haveto haveto haveto haveSole PowerShared PowerSole Powerto Voteto Voteto Disposeor toor toor toDirectDirectDirect thethe Votethe VoteDisposition _____ ____ The Mutuelles AXA, 0 0 0 0 as a group 0 0 0 0 AXA AXA Entity or Entities: _____ AXA Colonia Konzern AG (Germany) 21,900 AXA Rosenberg (U.S.) 712,400 21,900 0 0 1,156,300 0 0 21,900 0 0 AXA Financial, Inc. 0 0 Subsidiaries: _____ Alliance Capital Management L.P. 2,991,220 205,539 4,964,880 0 The Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States 800 0 800 0 ----- ------TOTAL 3,726,320 205,539 4,987,580 1,156,300

Each of the above subsidiaries of the AXA Financial, Inc. operates under independent management and makes independent voting and investment decisions.

Page 12 of 13 Pages

the Security Being Reporting on by the Parent Holding Company:

This Schedule 13G is being filed by AXA Financial, Inc.; AXA, which beneficially owns a majority interest in AXA Financial, Inc.; and the Mutuelles AXA, which as a group control AXA:

- (X) in the Mutuelles AXAs' capacity, as a group, acting as a parent holding company with respect to the holdings of the following AXA entity or entities;
- (X) in AXA's capacity as a parent holding company with respect to the holdings of the following AXA entity or entities: AXA Colonia Konzern AG (Germany) AXA Rosenberg (U.S.)
- (X) in AXA Financial, Inc.'s capacity as a parent holding company with respect to the holdings of its following subsidiaries:
- (X) Alliance Capital Management L.P. (13-3434400), an investment adviser registered under Section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940.
- (X) The Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States (13-5570651), an insurance company and an investment adviser registered under Section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940.

Page 13 of 13 Pages

Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group. N/A

Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group: N/A

Item 10. Certification:

By signing below I certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired for the purpose of and do not have the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of such securities and were not acquired in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having such purposes or effect.

Signature

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Date: February 12, 2001

AXA FINANCIAL, INC.* /s/ Alvin H. Fenichel Alvin H. Fenichel Senior Vice President

and Controller

*Pursuant to the Joint Filing Agreement with respect to Schedule 13G attached hereto as Exhibit I, among AXA Financial, Inc., AXA Conseil Vie Assurance Mutuelle, AXA Assurances I.A.R.D Mutuelle, AXA Assurances Vie Mutuelle, AXA Courtage Assurance Mutuelle, and AXA, this statement Schedule 13G is filed on behalf of each of them.