Poplava Named Director of E-Business at Sonoco

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HARTSVILLE, S.C., March 27 /PRNewswire/ -- E. Terrence Poplava has been named as Sonoco's (NYSE: SON) first director of e-business, effective April 3, 2000, and will report to the Company's chief executive officer, it was announced today by Peter C. Browning, president and chief executive officer.

(http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/19991006/SNCLOGO)

Poplava joins Sonoco after 19 years of service with IBM. Most recently he was responsible for the sale and delivery of e-business and customer relationship management solutions to IBM customers in the southeastern United States. He will head a team, including a senior information technology specialist and a former division marketing manager.

"We are extremely pleased to have someone with Terry's experience leading our e-business initiatives. He has demonstrated his ability to successfully integrate WEB capabilities into business processes that add value for customers and other supply chain partners," said Browning.

"Sonoco has invested some $50 million over the last three years for new information technology systems to support e-business and e-commerce opportunities. While Terry will be our first e-business director, we have in place industry-leading internal and external supply chain management capabilities and active relationships; a state-of-the art order entry and scheduling system using information technology products from Baan(R), i2(R) and Trilogy(R); a recently centralized global purchasing organization using products from PeopleSoft(R) and Ariba(R); and we have installed a global infrastructure to support broad access to the intranet and internet," added Browning.

"Today, we are using our e-business capabilities in the areas of electronic supplier catalogues, vendor-managed inventory and packaging services. We are also developing on-line ordering for seasonal and less customized products, and order/inventory status capabilities," concluded Browning.

Poplava is a 1981 graduate of the University of Notre Dame, with a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering and a BA degree in English. He received an MBA in Management, with honors, from Clemson University in 1987.

Sonoco, founded in 1899, is a $2.5 billion global manufacturer of industrial and consumer packaging products and provider of packaging services with 285 operations in 33 countries serving customers in 85 nations.
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