Sonoco Closes Industrial Machine Operation in Missouri

May 28, 2002

Hartsville, S.C., May 28 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Sonoco (NYSE: SON) today announced it will close its machinery manufacturing operation in Fenton, Missouri, by the third quarter of 2002.

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

The operation, which principally manufactures machinery and tooling for the Company's internal use, employs approximately 15 people. Some will be offered positions at other Sonoco locations with the remainder being provided severance pay and outplacement services. The Company leases the facility.

Sonoco acquired the operations in Fenton in 1997. The Company will integrate these functions with its machinery manufacturing operations in Hartsville, S.C.

Sonoco, founded in 1899, is a $2.6 billion manufacturer of industrial and consumer packaging products and provider of packaging services, with approximately 300 locations in 32 countries, serving customers in 85 nations. More information about the Company is available on its Web site at www.sonoco.com.

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