



Sonoco Announces Price Increases for European Paperboard

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BRUSSELS, Belgium, March 26 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Sonoco (NYSE: SON) will increase prices for all coreboard grades manufactured in and shipped to Europe by an average of 35 Euros per metric tonne, effective April 16, 2003, it was announced today by James A. Harrell III, division vice president, Industrial Products/Paper - Europe.

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

"We have seen increasing costs since January, and we continue to see energy, raw material, packaging, transportation and employee-related cost increases. While we continue to seek every means available to help offset costs with productivity improvements, we find that we must now adjust our prices," said Harrell.

Sonoco, founded in 1899, is a \$2.8 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. Additional information about the Company can be obtained through its web site at www.sonoco.com.

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