Sanders to Head Global Industrial Products; Colyer Will Lead Industrial Products - North America; Puechl Will Report to Sullivan

October 5, 2005

HARTSVILLE, S.C., Oct. 5 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Sonoco (NYSE: SON) Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer Harris E. DeLoach, Jr. announced today that M. Jack Sanders (52), currently vice president - Industrial Products, North America, will become vice president - Global Industrial Products, effective January 1, 2006. Sanders will replace Ronald E. Holley (63), senior vice president, who will retire February 28, 2006, with over 41 years of service to the Company.

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

John M. Colyer, Jr. (44), division vice president of manufacturing - Industrial Products, North America, will become division vice president and general manager - Industrial Products, North America, effective January 1, 2006.

Sanders, a 1976 graduate of Louisiana State University with a B.S. degree in finance, joined Sonoco in 1987 as national sales and marketing manager - Wire and Cable Reels division. In 1991, he assumed general manager responsibility for Sonoco's Protective Packaging division. He was promoted to division vice president and general manager - Protective Packaging division in 1998. Sanders was elected a corporate officer and named vice president- Industrial Products, North America in 2001.

Colyer, a 1983 graduate of Southern Oregon State University with a B.S. degree in business administration, joined Sonoco in 1983. He has held numerous manufacturing positions at Sonoco in businesses serving industrial and consumer markets. He was named division vice president of manufacturing - Industrial Products, North America, in 2004. He previously served as director of operations, North America - Consumer Products division; and as director of manufacturing - Packaging Services division.

DeLoach also announced that Robert L. Puechl, division vice president and general manager - Molded Plastics division, will begin reporting to Charles L. Sullivan, executive vice president, also effective January 1, 2006. Puechl previously reported to Holley. "With the development of Sonoco's rigid plastics business, which reports to Sullivan, and its increasing technology collaboration with the Company's molded plastics operations, this change should further enhance Sonoco's growth in its plastics businesses," said DeLoach.

Sonoco, founded in 1899, is a $3.2 billion global manufacturer of industrial and consumer packaging products and provider of packaging services, with more than 300 operations in 35 countries, serving customers in 85 nations. Additional information about the Company is available at http://www.sonoco.com.

SOURCE Sonoco
-0- 10/05/2005
/CONTACT: Allan V. Cecil, Vice President, Sonoco, +1-843-383-7524, or allan.cecil@sonoco.com/
/Photo: http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/19991006/SNCLOGO
AP Archive: http://photoarchive.ap.org
PRN Photo Desk, photodesk@prnewswire.com/
/Web site: http://www.sonoco.com/
(SON)

CO: Sonoco
ST: South Carolina
IN: PAP
SU: PER

JE-LA
-- CLW030 --
7675 10/05/2005 08:50 EDT http://www.prnewswire.com