Sonoco Board Declares Regular Quarterly Dividend

October 17, 2005

HARTSVILLE, S.C., Oct. 17 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Sonoco's (NYSE: SON) board of directors today declared a regular quarterly dividend of $.23 per share. This 322nd consecutive quarterly dividend will be payable December 9, 2005, to shareholders of record as of November 18, 2005.

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

Sonoco, founded in 1899, is a $3.2 billion global manufacturer of industrial and consumer 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.

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