Sonoco Announces Price Increase for Paper-Based Tubes and Cores and Specialty Products

January 27, 2006

HARTSVILLE, S.C., Jan. 27 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Sonoco (NYSE: SON) will increase prices for its paper-based, engineered carriers (tubes and cores) and related specialty products by 6 percent in the United States and Canada effective with shipments on or after February 20, 2006, it was announced today by John Colyer, division vice president and general manager, Industrial Products - North America.

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

"Price increases and energy surcharges implemented by producers of uncoated, recycled paperboard during the fourth quarter of 2005 and into 2006 continue to negatively impact our manufacturing cost structure. Additionally, our converting operations have been forced to absorb widespread inflation in virtually all production cost components, including adhesives, packaging, production supply items, utilities and employee related costs. Our aggressive and ongoing productivity improvements have been unable to fully offset these cost increases," said Colyer.

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

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-0- 01/27/2006
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