Marc Oken Elected Sonoco Director

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HARTSVILLE, S.C., Feb. 2 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Marc D. Oken, formerly chief financial officer (CFO), Bank of America, has been elected to the Sonoco (NYSE: SON) Board of Directors, it was announced today by Harris E. DeLoach, Jr., chairman, president and chief executive officer.

(Photo: http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20060202/CLTH058)

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

"Sonoco is extremely pleased that Marc Oken has agreed to join our board of directors. He brings extensive financial management experience to the board, having served as Bank of America's CFO during 2004 and 2005 where he was responsible for finance, supply chain management, corporate treasury, corporate investments, corporate workplace and investor relations. He was also the transition executive for the Fleet/Boston and MBNA mergers with Bank of America. Prior to his appointment as CFO, Oken was principal financial executive for the bank, a position he held since joining the bank in 1989," said DeLoach.

Prior to joining Bank of America, Oken was a Fellow with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), serving as principal advisor to the SEC's chief accountant on financial services industry accounting and disclosure matters in 1982 and 1983. He was a partner with Price Waterhouse and associated with them from 1974 to 1981 and from 1983 to 1989.

A Baltimore native, Oken received a bachelor's degree in business administration from Loyola College, Baltimore, in 1968. He received a master's degree in business administration from the University of West Florida in 1973. He is a Vietnam veteran, having served as a U.S. Navy aviator from 1968 to 1973.

A resident of Charlotte, N.C., Oken is past chairman of the board of trustees of the Mint Museum of Art, Charlotte, and the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra. He serves as a member of the board of trustees of the Charlotte Country Day School and the North Carolina Museum of Art Foundation. He also is a director of Marsh McLennan, an NYSE company, Star Scientific, Inc., Chester, Va., and MBNA Europe.

Sonoco, founded in 1899, is a 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 Sonoco is available at http://www.sonoco.com.

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