Sonoco Acquires Point-of-Purchase and Fulfillment Assets of Markson Rosenthal & Co.

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HARTSVILLE, S.C., May 30 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Sonoco, (NYSE: SON) the global packaging company, today completed the acquisition of certain point-of- purchase (P-O-P) display and packaging fulfillment assets of Markson Rosenthal & Co. The assets were acquired by way of an auction conducted by the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Jersey, as part of Markson Rosenthal's Chapter 11 filing. Terms of the acquisition were not disclosed.

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

"We are pleased to have been successful in obtaining these assets, which include display design and packaging fulfillment operations in Bolingbrook, Ill. These operations tie well with Sonoco's existing P-O-P and service center operations in the United States," said Charles Sullivan, executive vice president of Sonoco's global consumer packaging and services operations. "Following our acquisition of CorrFlex Graphics in 2004, we have been working to expand our point-of-purchase display and fulfillment operations to meet the needs of our customers. We will continue to look for opportunities to further build this important business."

Sonoco is a leading provider of strategic packaging displays and service solutions for retail-focused customers. The company operates 21 locations world-wide including service centers, point-of-purchase manufacturing facilities, sales and design offices and a brand artwork management center. The Company's Services operations include designing, manufacturing, assembling, packing and distributing temporary, semipermanent and permanent point-of-purchase displays and supply chain management services including contract packaging, fulfillment and scalable service centers. Sonoco serves a number of consumer packaged goods companies, including those serving markets in personal care, beauty, healthcare, electronics, hosiery, confectionery, home and garden, sporting goods, office supplies and pharmaceuticals.

About Sonoco

Sonoco, founded in 1899, is a $3.5 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 some 85 nations. For more information on Sonoco, visit our Web site at http://www.sonoco.com.

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