Marcy Thompson Joins Sonoco As Division VP - Sales and Marketing

June 1, 2006

HARTSVILLE, S.C., June 1 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Marcy Thompson, formerly chief marketing officer - Healthcare Financial Services, General Electric Company, Commercial Finance, Chicago, Illinois, has been named division vice president - sales and marketing, Industrial Products - North America, Sonoco (NYSE: SON), effective June 1, 2006, it was announced by John Colyer, division vice president and general manager, Industrial Products - North America.

Thompson brings 23 years of experience to Sonoco, having served in a variety of sales, marketing and leadership positions with General Electric Company, The Gillette Company and Inland Steel Company.

A 1983 graduate of The Pennsylvania State University with a B.S. degree in Metallurgy, Thompson also has earned a Master Six Sigma Black Belt certification.

"Marcy will apply her extensive experience, strong skills and proven leadership to help further grow our division's existing business as well as identify new opportunities," said Colyer.

Sonoco, founded in 1899, is a $3.5 billion global manufacturer of consumer and industrial packaging products and provider of packaging services, with more than 300 operations in 35 countries serving customers in some 85 nations. Additional information about Sonoco is available at http://www.sonoco.com.

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