Sonotube® Finish Free Concrete Forms Now Available in Lengths Up to 20 Feet

January 23, 2008

HARTSVILLE, S.C.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Jan. 23, 2008--Sonoco (NYSE:SON), the market and technology leader in the manufacture of fiber-based concrete construction forms and void forms, today announced the addition of new manufacturing capabilities and investment to produce Sonotube Finish Free concrete forms in lengths up to 20 feet.

Sonotube Finish Free concrete forms produce exceptionally smooth columns without any manual finishing. They feature a patented Duraglas® coating on the inside of the forms that eliminates spiral marks, seams and imperfections that would otherwise be left on the finished surface of the concrete. This results in significant savings for contractors through the elimination of the labor and materials required for grinding, patching and manually finishing columns.

"For making smooth columns, there isn't a substitute for Sonotube Finish Free forms," said Greg Limbardo, Vice President of Sales for Engineered Devices Corporation, a Ridgefield Park, N.J. based Sonotube brand distributor. "All of the major contractors we supply prefer Sonotube Finish Free forms for their round columns used in metropolitan construction projects. Sonoco's investment in a new line with greater length capability will help us better service our customers, particularly the needs of commercial contractors."

Sonotube Finish Free concrete forms are available in 12- to 36-inch diameter sizes. Like other Sonotube brand concrete forms, Finish Free forms are made with Rainguard(TM) technology to prevent moisture damage. All Sonotube forms are strong but lightweight, so they can be easily moved and placed for pouring. Sonotube FinishFree concrete forms also contain the RipCord(TM) feature: a quick, safe and convenient way to remove the forms after the concrete sets. When pulled with a hammer, pry bar or other tool handle, the RipCord strap cuts right through the form wall so the form can be safely removed without the use of power tools, and without damaging the surface of the column.

Sonoco will exhibit the entire Sonotube product line this week at this year's World of Concrete, in booth S11029 at the Las Vegas Convention Center, Jan. 22 - 24.

Sonoco announced yesterday it has signed a letter of intent to acquire the assets of VoidForm International, a maker of fiber-based concrete void forms, used during construction to prevent concrete floors from eventual cracking or splitting. Michael Rosenblat, chief executive officer of VoidForm International, will attend World of Concrete to help introduce the new product line to Sonoco customers.

About Sonoco

Founded in 1899, Sonoco is a $3.7 billion global manufacturer of industrial and consumer products and provider of packaging services, with approximately 330 operations in 35 countries, serving customers in some 85 nations. For more information on the Company, visit our Web site at http://www.sonoco.com/.

MULTIMEDIA AVAILABLE:
http://www.businesswire.com/cgi-bin/mmg.cgi?eid=5589958

CONTACT: Sonoco
Ginny Thornton Jones, 843-639-7187;
ginny.thornton@sonoco.com; www.sonoco.com

SOURCE: Sonoco