



Sonoco Names Sanders Executive Vice President of Global Consumer Businesses

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Colyer Named Vice President, Global Industrial Converting

HARTSVILLE, S.C.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Dec. 4, 2009-- Sonoco (NYSE: SON), one of the largest diversified global packaging companies, today announced that M. Jack Sanders has been named executive vice president, Consumer, effective January 1, 2010, according to Harris E. DeLoach, Jr., chairman, president and chief executive officer. Sanders, 56, will succeed Charles Sullivan, 66, who is retiring effective March 31, 2010.

"Jack has demonstrated strong operations leadership during his 22-year career with Sonoco and will be tasked with continuing to grow our global consumer packaging and services businesses," said DeLoach. "I want to personally thank Charles for all he has done over the past decade in building Sonoco's consumer business into the industry's only total solutions packaging and services provider. During his tenure, Sonoco's consumer-related sales and operating profits have nearly doubled and now represent approximately 58 percent of the Company's total business."

In this new management assignment, Sanders will have global operating responsibility for all of Sonoco's businesses serving consumer markets, including Global Rigid Paper and Closures, Global Rigid Plastics, Global Flexible Packaging and Global Packaging Services. Prior to this appointment, he was executive vice president, Industrial, responsible for the Company's vertically integrated global industrial converting and paper operations.

A 1976 graduate of Louisiana State University with a BS degree in finance, Sanders joined Sonoco in 1987 as national sales and marketing manager, Wire and Cable Reels. In 1991, he was named general manager for Sonoco's Protective Packaging division and was promoted to division vice president and general manager of Protective Packaging in 1998. Sanders was elected a corporate officer and named vice president, Industrial Products, North America in 2001. He was subsequently named vice president, Global Industrial Products in 2005, senior vice president in 2006 and executive vice president in 2008.

Sullivan joined Sonoco in 2000 after 19 years of service with Cargill, an international marketer and processor of agricultural, financial and industrial products, including positions as regional director of Cargill Asia/Pacific and as president of Cargill's Salt Division. A native of Hartsville, S.C., Sullivan serves on the board of directors of the Clemson University Foundation and recently completed serving as chairman of the Coker College Board of Trustees. He is a past chairman of the Associate Member Council of the Grocery Manufacturers Association (GMA) and was on the President's Advisory Council of the GMA. He previously served as chairman of the Salt Institute and as a member of its CEO Council and is active in a number of community organizations.

Effective with this change, DeLoach also announced that all of the Company's global industrial businesses will report directly to him. In addition, John Colyer has been named vice president, Global Industrial Converting, reporting to DeLoach. In this new position, Colyer, 48, will have responsibility for the Company's global tubes and cores, protective packaging, wire and cable reels and paperboard specialties.

Colyer joined Sonoco in 1983 and has held numerous business leadership and manufacturing positions at Sonoco in businesses serving industrial and consumer markets. Prior to this appointment, he was vice president, North America Converting. He also served as vice president, Industrial Products division (IPD), North America, and served as division vice president and general manager, IPD, North America since 2006. In 2004, he became division vice president of manufacturing, IPD, North America. He is a graduate of Southern Oregon State University with a BS degree in business administration.

About Sonoco

Founded in 1899, Sonoco is a \$4.1 billion global manufacturer of industrial and consumer products and provider of packaging services, with more than 300 operations in 35 countries, serving customers in some 85 nations. Sonoco is a proud member of the Dow Jones Sustainability World Index. For more information on the Company, visit our Web site at <http://www.sonoco.com/>.

Print ready photo links:

M. Jack Sanders: <http://www.box.net/shared/static/a7yutku4go.tif>

Charles Sullivan: <http://www.box.net/shared/static/4fh50xhk4o.tif>

Source: Sonoco

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