

## **Sonoco Announces Price Increases for Molded Wood Products**

March 18, 2010 8:04 AM ET

HARTSVILLE, S.C., Mar 18, 2010 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- Sonoco (NYSE: SON) will increase prices for molded wood products by 7 percent effective on shipments as of April 15, 2010, according to James Harrell, vice president and general manager, Industrial Carriers Division, North America. Sonoco is one of the largest domestic suppliers of molded wood products for its served industries.

"Using 2005 as a baseline, lumber output in the United States has decreased from 40.5 billion board feet to 22.6 billion board feet in 2009. Since wood shavings are the primary raw material used to manufacture molded wood products, we have been adversely affected by decreased supply," said Harrell.

"Sonoco continues to make investments to drive productivity initiatives to help reduce costs to our customers including consolidating molded plug production in our facility in Bastrop, Louisiana," Harrell added. "Unfortunately, business conditions and our supply chain for materials are being stressed beyond what we can afford to absorb."

### **About Sonoco**

Founded in 1899, Sonoco is a \$3.6 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>.

SOURCE: Sonoco

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