Sonoco's Board Declares Increase in Common Stock Dividend

April 21, 2010

Cash Dividend Raised for the 28th Consecutive Year

HARTSVILLE, S.C., Apr 21, 2010 (BUSINESS WIRE) --The Board of Directors of Sonoco (NYSE: SON) today declared a $.28 per share quarterly common stock dividend, an increase from the previous quarterly dividend of $.27 per share. The dividend will be payable June 10, 2010, to shareholders of record as of May 14, 2010.

According to Harris E. DeLoach Jr., chairman, president and chief executive officer, this is the 28th consecutive year that Sonoco has increased common stock dividends and 340th consecutive quarter, dating back to 1925, that the Company has paid dividends to shareholders. If annualized, Sonoco's new dividend is projected to increase from $1.08 to $1.12 per share, an increase of 3.7 percent. The projected annual dividend of $1.12 per share would provide a yield of approximately 3.4 percent, based on the Company's closing stock price of $33.00 as of April 20, 2010.

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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