

Sonoco Recycling and Shoosmith Brothers To Open New Recycling Center

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New landfill diversion facility is first of its kind

HARTSVILLE, S.C., Jun 15, 2011 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- Sonoco Recycling, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Sonoco (NYSE: SON), and Shoosmith Brothers Inc., today announced the opening of The Recycling Center, a landfill diversion facility that will be operated by Sonoco Recycling at the Shoosmith Brothers landfill in Chester, Va.

The Recycling Center will handle mixed material loads for recycling. With the new recycling facility, commercial and industrial customers will now be able to recycle unsorted and mixed loads that previously would have gone to landfills. The facility will sort and process items such as mixed paper, metal and plastics. Reclaimed materials will be linked to other end users. Recovered paper, for instance, will go to Sonoco's Richmond paper mill only 12 miles away, lowering the facility's carbon footprint and offering a secure source of supply.

"This new recycling facility is one of the first to be constructed at a landfill with the primary mission of diverting waste destined for land disposal," said Jim Brown, vice president, Sonoco Recycling. "We are capturing materials that previously held no value for customers and returning them to the manufacturing stream to make products that consumers use every day."

"Few facilities exist to accept unsorted industrial and commercial waste destined for landfills," said Fletcher Kelly, vice president of Shoosmith Brothers Inc. "By recovering and repurposing this waste to alternative end uses, we're not only generating additional revenue, but lengthening the life of our landfills."

The recycling facility, operated by Sonoco Recycling on behalf of Shoosmith Brothers, will serve commercial and industrial customers in the Greater Richmond area as well as regionally. As diversion efforts expand, the economic impact of the facility will be visible in various ways, including the ultimate creation of up to a 20 percent increase in new jobs.

Sonoco Recycling is a recycling leader with locations and expertise worldwide. Annually, it collects more than 3 million tons of old corrugated containers, various grades of paper, metals and plastics. In addition, the Company has experts who provide secure, reliable and innovative recycling solutions to residential and commercial customers. Currently, Sonoco Recycling operates three material recovery facilities (MRFs) serving more than 125 communities in which curbside-collected residential and commercial materials are processed. The Company also operates recycling programs which identify waste reduction opportunities that reduce operating expenses for many of the largest consumer product companies in the U.S.

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 34 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 website at www.sonoco.com.

About Shoosmith Brothers Inc.

Shoosmith Brothers Inc. has been operating in Chester, Va., for more than 30 years with environmental integrity and a reputation for giving back to the community. An affiliated company of Virginia Waste Services, Shoosmith is a regional leader in the waste collection and disposal business with over 140 employees. The landfill reuses and recycles more than 200,000 tons of material and will expand its legacy of environmental stewardship with the opening of the new recycling center. Shoosmith also generates 16 megawatts of electricity from landfill gas at the facility, enough energy to power 10,000 homes per year. For more information about the company, visit www.va-waste.com.

SOURCE: Sonoco

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