

## Sonoco's New Albany, Ohio Rigid Plastics Facility Achieves LEED Silver Certification

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HARTSVILLE, S.C., April 22, 2014 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Sonoco (NYSE:SON), one of the largest diversified global packaging companies, announced that its New Albany, Ohio, rigid plastics facility has achieved LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver Certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. The \$15 million, 142,230-square-foot plant produces PET bottles for personal care products, as well as plastic components for wall air fresheners. The facility, located in the Beauty and Home Care Campus of New Albany, has been operational since October 2012.

"Our team has worked to achieve LEED Silver certification since we began construction in 2011, and we're extremely proud of them," said Howard Coker, vice president, Sonoco Plastics. "Additionally, having our facilities LEED certified further demonstrates Sonoco's commitment to the idea that smart packaging is more than plastics, cardboard and paper – it's focusing on continuous improvement in how we operate and working to shrink our environmental footprint."

LEED Certification is comprised of four levels, based on points earned: Certified (40-49 points); Silver (50-59 points); Gold (60-79 points); and Platinum (80+ points). Projects may earn points for a variety of different efforts under one of five rating categories. For more information on the LEED Certification process, visit [www.usgbc.org/leed#rating](http://www.usgbc.org/leed#rating).

Sonoco Plastics is a leading manufacturer of mono-layer and multi-layer blow-molded bottles and jars, thermoformed cups and trays and engineered molded and extruded containers, spools and trays. The Company has 25 plastics operations in the U.S., Canada, Mexico, Ireland, Netherlands and Germany. In addition to the Beauty Park facility, Sonoco Plastics operates a state-of-the-art food-grade, blow-molding and injection molding plant in Columbus, Ohio.

### About Sonoco

Founded in 1899, Sonoco is a global provider of a variety of consumer packaging, industrial products, protective packaging and packaging supply chain services. With annualized net sales of approximately \$4.9 billion, the Company has more than 19,900 employees working in 335 operations in 33 countries, serving many of the world's best-known brands in some 85 nations. Sonoco is a proud member of the 2013/2014 Dow Jones Sustainability World Index. For more information on the Company, visit our website at [sonoco.com](http://sonoco.com).

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