

## Sonoco ThermoSafe Launches Reusable Container for Blood Transport and Storage

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### Container Will Help Hospitals and Blood Banks

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, Ill., June 24, 2015 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Sonoco ThermoSafe, a unit of Sonoco (NYSE:SON) and a leading supplier of temperature assurance packaging, has launched a revolutionary new product for the transport and temporary storage of red blood cells and platelets. The result of years of end-user research, the innovative Via® Blood Transporter incorporates leading-edge technology in phase change and insulating material to ensure ultimate temperature protection, while its ergonomic features aid in the fast and efficient conveyance of blood when it matters most.

“The Via Blood Transporter’s unique design leverages Sonoco’s expertise in the automobile industry, where products require the utmost in durability,” said Russell Grissett, vice president of Sonoco ThermoSafe. “The transporter is constructed out of expanded polypropylene (EPP) that withstands the rigors of the most challenging hospital and blood bank environments. It features a bright red color for heightened visibility, an efficient light-weight design and an easy-to-clean interior and exterior.”

The Via Blood Transporter maintains red blood cells at 1-6°C for 8 hours during transport and 1-10°C for the temporary storage of blood product for a minimum of 12 hours. The transporter comes complete with PureTemp® phase change material, which maintains strict temperature control and promotes the efficient, safe and compliant transport of blood product.

“The Via Blood Transporter was designed in accordance with blood bank user feedback,” said Marianne Hoonakker-Kelly, Sonoco ThermoSafe business development and market manager. “Unique and innovative features such as the front platelet pouch and affixed assembly instructions not only promote compliance, transport efficiencies and minimized risk of loss due to mishandling – they ultimately promote patient safety. Given the cost pressures applied to healthcare systems, products like the Via Blood Transporter are critical as they ensure recommended temperature protection while preventing the waste and loss of valuable blood product.”

For more information or to purchase the Via Blood Transporter, please visit [thermosafe.com/viabloodtransporter](http://thermosafe.com/viabloodtransporter) or call 800-323-7442.

Sonoco ThermoSafe is a leading global provider of temperature assurance packaging for the safe and efficient transport of pharmaceuticals, biologics, vaccines and other temperature-sensitive products. Sonoco ThermoSafe shipping solutions mitigate risk for our customers and ensure product efficacy throughout the extremes of a supply chain. With operations in North America, Europe and Asia, Sonoco ThermoSafe has a vast product offering featuring industry-leading technology that encompasses refrigerated, frozen or controlled room temperature applications. In addition, Sonoco ThermoSafe’s ISC Labs® design and testing services deliver individualized and innovative packaging solutions along with qualification and validation services to meet all regulatory requirements. More information can be found at [www.thermosafe.com](http://www.thermosafe.com).

#### About Sonoco:

Founded in 1899, Sonoco is a global provider of a variety of consumer packaging, industrial products, protective packaging, and displays and packaging supply chain services. With annualized net sales of approximately \$5 billion, the Company has 20,800 employees working in more than 330 operations in 34 countries, serving some of the world's best known brands in some 85 nations. Sonoco is a proud member of the 2014/2015 Dow Jones Sustainability World Index. For more information on the Company, visit our website at [www.sonoco.com](http://www.sonoco.com).

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