



Sonoco Targets Voluntary 15% Drop in Global Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 2014

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Emission Reductions to Occur at Company's More Than 300 Global Manufacturing Plants Company Issues 2009-2010 Sustainability Report to Stakeholders

HARTSVILLE, S.C., Jul 26, 2010 (BUSINESS WIRE) --

Sonoco (NYSE: SON), one of the largest global diversified packaging companies, today said it is voluntarily targeting a 15 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) from the Company's more than 300 global manufacturing plants by 2014.

Harris E. DeLoach, Jr., chairman, president and chief executive officer, announced the new voluntary emission reduction goal in a letter to stakeholders from the Company's 2009-2010 Sustainability Report which was issued today. The report is available on the Company's Web site at www.sonoco.com.

"Last year, we committed to reducing GHG emissions from our uncoated recycled papermills in the United States and Canada by approximately 15 percent by 2013. I am pleased to report that our efforts in 2009 led to an approximate 13 percent reduction," DeLoach said. "We have put in place a global Web-based environmental management system which collects GHG emissions from all of our international manufacturing facilities. We have taken this data, established 2008 as our baseline year, and set a goal of reducing GHG emission from our more than 300 manufacturing facilities by 15 percent by 2014."

DeLoach said the significant progress Sonoco made in 2009 toward reducing GHG emission came from decreasing energy consumption and by converting steam boilers at some of the Company's paperboard mills to less carbon-intensive fuels. As an example, overall energy consumption at Sonoco's North American paperboard mills was reduced by 3.3 percent in 2009, which saved the Company approximately \$2.2 million and reduced GHG and other emissions. Further projects are underway at Company mills in North America, Italy and Greece.

Sonoco's 20-page Sustainability Report reviews actions the Company is taking in the areas of environmental stewardship, community service and economic performance. The report provides a scorecard of initiatives, including efforts to provide more sustainable packaging products and recycling services offered by the Company to the Company's diverse consumer and industrial packaging businesses.

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 www.sonoco.com.

SOURCE: Sonoco

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"Safe Harbor" Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995: Statements in this press release regarding Sonoco's business which are not historical facts are "forward-looking statements" that involve risks and uncertainties. For a discussion of such risks and uncertainties, which could cause actual results to differ from those contained in the forward-looking statements, see "Risk Factors" in the Company's Annual Report or Form 10-K for the most recently ended fiscal year.