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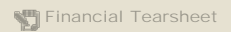
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Sonoco Recycling Breaks Ground on Charleston Facility

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Full-scale Materials Recovery Facility will expand Charleston footprint

HARTSVILLE, S.C., Oct 26, 2011 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- [Sonoco Recycling](#), a wholly owned subsidiary of Sonoco (NYSE: SON) and one of the largest packaging recyclers in North America, today announced that it has broken ground on a new materials recovery facility (MRF) in Charleston County, S.C. Expected to be complete in February of 2012, the new MRF will service both residential and commercial/industrial recycling.

"Our new facility represents a \$1 million investment into the greater Charleston community," said Jim Brown, vice president, Sonoco Recycling. "We've been in Charleston County since 1972, and are excited to continue our growth in this area by offering expanded services to local residents and businesses."

The MRF, located at 2025 Tellico Road in North Charleston, will add 15 new jobs in addition to the 200 people currently employed by Sonoco Recycling in South Carolina. With the new facility, Sonoco Recycling aims to grow capacity by 25 percent, increasing processing capabilities by expanding the list of materials accepted in Charleston County. Additionally, the new MRF will be equipped to process residential single-stream (commingled) materials.

Currently, Sonoco Recycling's reclamation rates in Charleston save nearly 150,000 square feet of landfill space and more than \$2 million in avoided landfill fees for local businesses. The Company maintains relationships with more than 150 businesses in the area, and is involved in numerous environmental initiatives such as the Carolina Recycling Association, Keep South Carolina Beautiful and the Southeastern Recycling Coalition. Sonoco Recycling also participates as an environmental partner in many local events like the Charleston Green Fair, the Cooper River Bridge Run and the BB&T Charleston Wine and Food Festival(R).

A recycling leader with locations and expertise worldwide, Sonoco Recycling annually collects more than three 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 four material recovery facilities (MRFs) and serves more than 125 communities in which curbside-collected residential and commercial materials are processed. The Company also provides 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 <http://www.sonoco.com>.

SOURCE: Sonoco

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