

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

**Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): April 2, 2018

SONOCO PRODUCTS COMPANY

Commission File No. 001-11261

**Incorporated under the laws
of South Carolina**

**I.R.S. Employer Identification
No. 57-0248420**

**1 N. Second St.
Hartsville, South Carolina 29550
Telephone: 843/383-7000**

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company ☐

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. ☐

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- ☐ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- ☐ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- ☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- ☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Section 5 – Corporate Governance and Management

Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

As previously disclosed in the Form 8-K filed on November 28, 2017, which is incorporated herein by reference, President and Chief Executive Officer M. Jack Sanders retired from Sonoco and its Board of Directors effective April 2, 2018, and Robert C. Tiede became President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company.

Mr. Tiede’s compensation arrangements as President and Chief Executive Officer are disclosed under “Executive Compensation” in the Company’s Proxy Statement for the 2018 Annual Meeting of Shareholders filed March 16, 2018, which information is herein incorporated herein by reference.

The Board of Directors has also appointed Mr. Tiede to serve on the Board to fill the seat vacated by Mr. Sanders until the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held on April 18, 2018. Mr. Tiede has also been nominated for election by shareholders at the Annual Meeting. Mr. Tiede has been appointed to serve on the Executive Committee of the Board.

Section 8 – Other Events

Item 8.01 Other Events.

For additional information regarding the foregoing, please see the Registrant’s news release dated April 2, 2018, welcoming Robert C. Tiede as President and Chief Executive Officer.

Section 9 – Financial Statements and Exhibits

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

99Registrant's news release dated April 2, 2018, welcoming Robert C. Tiede as President and Chief Executive Officer.

Exhibit Index

99 [Registrant's news release dated April 2, 2018, welcoming Robert C. Tiede as President and Chief Executive Officer.](#)

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

SONOCO PRODUCTS COMPANY

Date: April 2, 2018

By: /s/ Barry L. Saunders

Barry L. Saunders

Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer



NEWS RELEASE

April 2, 2018

Contact: Roger Schrum

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Sonoco Welcomes Robert C. Tiede as President and CEO

HARTSVILLE, S.C., U.S. - Sonoco (NYSE:SON), one of the largest diversified global packaging companies, announced today the start of Robert C. Tiede's tenure as the new President and CEO of Sonoco. Tiede replaces the retiring Jack Sanders, who served as President and CEO since 2013. Tiede will be the ninth CEO of the 119-year-old company.

"It's humbling, and truly an honor to have the opportunity to lead such a storied company, with a legacy going back more than a century," said Tiede. "This is an exciting time for Sonoco as we continue to evolve our portfolio and geographic footprint in ways that help us serve our purpose, *Better Packaging. Better Life*, while delivering value to our shareholders, our customers and our teammates."

Prior to being named CEO, Rob served as Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Sonoco, with global leadership, sales and operating responsibility for all of the Company's diversified consumer, industrial and protective packaging businesses.

"Rob has made significant contributions to Sonoco over the past fourteen years, especially as we have worked to expand our consumer packaging business," said Board Chairman Harris DeLoach. "We look forward to Rob's leadership as we continue to build upon our existing foundation, while charting new courses for growth."

Since joining Sonoco in 2004, Tiede has led all of Sonoco's global consumer-related businesses, including Rigid Paper Containers, Flexible Packaging, Plastics and Display and Packaging. Before becoming Executive Vice President and COO, Tiede served as Senior Vice President, Global Consumer Packaging and Services, responsible for the Company's Corporate Customer program as well as its Rigid Plastics, Flexibles and Display and Packaging businesses. Tiede was named to that position in December 2012. During his tenure at Sonoco, the Company's consumer-related businesses have increased sales by approximately 90 percent and operating profits by 120 percent, as the Company's consumer growth strategy developed broader global packaging and services capabilities.

Tiede joined Sonoco as president of Sonoco CorrFlex with the 2004 acquisition of CorrFlex Graphics' point-of-purchase merchandising display and supply chain management business. In 2006, Tiede assumed responsibility for Sonoco's global packaging services business, and in 2007 he was named division vice president and general manager of the Company's Flexible Packaging division. Prior to joining Sonoco, Tiede worked in private equity as president of Bostic Packaging/CorrFlex from 2000 to 2004 and president of Sterling International from 1998 to 2000. He also served as Executive Vice President of operations for Graphic Packaging International, Inc.'s flexible packaging division from 1994 to 1998.

Tiede is active in industry and community organizations and is the outgoing chairman of the Flexible Packaging Association and the chairman of the Hartsville United Way. A native of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, Tiede became a U.S. citizen in 2013. He and his wife, Val, maintain a home in Hartsville, S.C. and have three grown children.

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About Sonoco

Founded in 1899, Sonoco (NYSE: SON) 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 21,000 employees working in more than 300 operations in 33 countries, serving some of the world's best known brands in some 85 nations. Sonoco is committed to *Better Packaging. Better Life.*, and ranked first in the Packaging sector on Fortune's World's Most Admired Companies 2018 list. For more information visit www.sonoco.com.

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