



Sonoco Awarded \$150 Million Contract For New Flexible Packaging Business

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HARTSVILLE, S.C., Sept. 20 /PRNewswire/ -- Sonoco (NYSE: SON) has been awarded a five-year contract for new printed flexible packaging business valued at approximately \$30 million annually or \$150 million over the life of the contract, it was announced today by Harris E. DeLoach, Jr., president and chief executive officer. The contract is in the snack food market. The customer was not named.

(Photo: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/19991006/SNCLOGO>)

Sonoco will complete a customary qualification period of testing prior to commencing production. The Company expects to begin phasing in new production under the contract during the first half of next year.

"The contract is a direct result of the additional capabilities Sonoco gained from its acquisition of Graphic Packaging Corporation's flexible packaging business in September 1999," said DeLoach.

"Printed flexible packaging is one of the five businesses we have targeted as primary growth vehicles for the Company. The acquisition of Graphic and this contract are evidence of our commitment to being either number one or number two in the multi-color, sophisticated graphics niche of flexible packaging," stated DeLoach.

Sonoco, founded in 1899, is a \$2.5 billion global manufacturer of industrial and consumer packaging products and provider of packaging services with 285 operations in 33 countries serving customers in 85 nations. For more information on the Company, visit our website at www.sonoco.com.

SOURCE Sonoco

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