



Sonoco Repurchases 4.7 Million Shares

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HARTSVILLE, S.C., Jan. 9 /PRNewswire/ -- In December 2000, Sonoco (NYSE: SON) repurchased approximately 4.7 million shares of common stock in private and public transactions pursuant to a five million share authorization by the Company's board of directors in October 2000, it was announced by Harris E. DeLoach, Jr., president and chief operating officer. The average purchase price was \$19.67 per share.

During the year 2000, Sonoco repurchased approximately 7.1 million shares at an average price of \$19.35. At year-end 2000, the Company had approximately 95 million common shares outstanding.

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

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