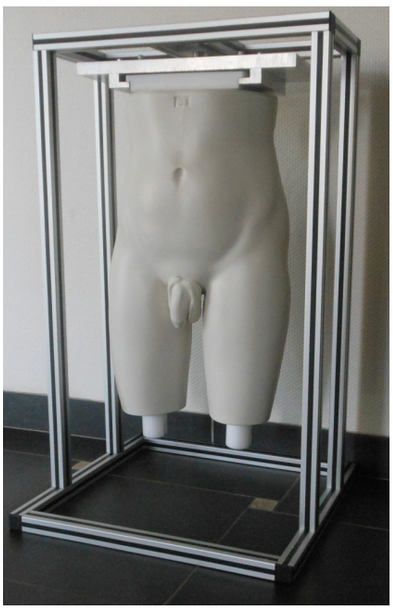
ADULT HYGIENE - PERFORMANCE TESTS



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TESTS

- ABLb: Absorption Before Leakage – Heavy incontinence
- ABLc: Absorption Before Leakage – Medium Incontinence
- ABLd: Absorption Before Leakage – Light Incontinence
- ASH: Anarewet Skin Hydratation – Adult Hygiene
- WSP 354.0: Standard Test Method: Absorption before Leakage Using an Adult Mannequin (ISO Standard in progress)

SCOPE

Measure the performance of adult hygiene products for all relevant categories:

- Light, medium and heavy
- Female and male

APPLICATION RANGE

Products tested include sanitary towels, pads, briefs, pants and pouches (for men).

METHOD

Protective products are fitted to mannequins before testing. Mannequins are available to complete testing in three poses: standing, lying and sitting.

To simulate male and female urination, test mannequins feature two different tubes and an adaptor is used for male tests. The mannequins are connected to a dedicated pump system, which has been designed to control multiple dosage sequences, including volume, flow rate, and delay between doses. A specific protocol is defined for each type of incontinence product.

ABL Test: Multiple doses of synthetic urine are applied. A sensor-sheet automatically detects leakages and stops the sequence. On completion, the absorbed volume is measured and the average calculated.

ASH Test: A pre-determined quantity of synthetic urine is applied to diapers through mannequins, before they are removed and a collagen pad (with characteristics similar to skin) is applied to the top sheet. Homogenous pressure is applied across the top sheet using ANAREWET equipment. The moisture absorbed by the collagen material is then measured and the average value calculated.

Results from both tests are combined and scored out of 100, with more weight given to the leakage test (80 points) than the moisture sensation test (20 points). The latter is a more subjective parameter.

ABL test positions:

- Heavy incontinence: lying back (50 pts); sitting (20 pts); lying on side (10 pts)
- Medium incontinence: lying back (50 pts); sitting (20 pts); standing (10 pts)
- Light incontinence: sitting (50 pts); standing (30 pts)

ASH test positions:

- Heavy incontinence: lying back (20 points)
- Medium incontinence: sitting (20 points)
- Light incontinence: sitting (20 points)

Additional tests, like breathability and mechanical properties, further assess the properties of the finished products. Other tests reflect characteristics of the products, for example, dimension, weight, content, construction and SAP quantity.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Regulations/Directives: GPSD, REACH, Medical Devices Directive 93/42/EEC (Adult incontinence products are Class I medical devices), Regulation 528/2012 for Biocides.

In addition, microbiological and chemical testing can be conducted at other SGS Group partners, according to need.

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