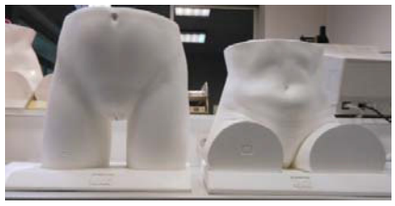
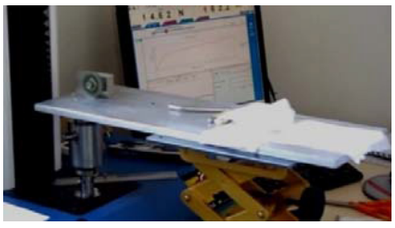
FEMININE HYGIENE - PERFORMANCE TESTS





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TESTS

- POA/DF1 – Adhesivity of sanitary towels and wings
- POA/DF4 – Feminine Hygiene – Multiple acquisition time without pressure
- POA/DF6 – Feminine Hygiene – Total retention of sanitary towels after centrifuge
- POA/DF7-DF8 – Feminine Hygiene – Simulation test on mannequins (standing, sitting)
- POA/DF9 – Feminine Hygiene – Run-off efficiency

SCOPE

Measure the performance of feminine hygiene products, focusing on product attributes, such as:

- Fast absorption of menstrual fluid without leakage (Run-off, acquisition time, simulation tests on mannequins)
- Comfort (moisture measurement) and fitness (adhesivity). These parameters are more subjective

Some panty liners are more dedicated to underwear protection and are appraised in this way.

APPLICATION RANGE

Tests can be conducted on sanitary towels and panty liners.

METHOD

A synthetic menstrual fluid is used during these tests, it has a very specific recipe to ensure consistency of viscosity, pH, and surface tension specifications.

Run-off test: fluid is discharged onto a sanitary towels at a high rate of flow to stress the top layer and appraise its ability to quickly absorb liquid in a bent position (30°).

Acquisition time test: synthetic menstrual fluid (dose adjusted according to size) is delivered in a transparent funnel that allows the operator to measure how long it takes the sanitary towels to completely absorb the dose. After a while, the same measurement is repeated (twice).

Simulation test: sanitary towels are fitted to mannequins (female) and a known quantity of synthetic menstrual fluid is slowly delivered until the defined volume is reached (according to the tested size). The test operator checks for leakage then performs a moisture sensation test, absorbent material is placed on the top-sheet and the difference wet/dry is calculated.

Adhesivity: sanitary towels are glued on to a synthetic tissue, chosen for its stable properties, then a fast ageing/warming procedure is applied. After a set time, the sample is placed on to dedicated apparatus, connected to a tensile meter, to measure its adhesivity value at 180°.

Test results are weighted depending their priority, based on consumer feedback, for example, leakage tests carry more weight than subjective tests like moisture and comfort. Compiling all these tests and individual appraisals/notes, a global ranking is provided. A class is given (A, B, C, D, E) to place the product in a quality range.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Comparison tests can be provided. Component substitutions can be handled (R&D purposes). In addition, microbiological and chemical testing can be conducted at other SGS Group partners, according to need.