

TISSUE AND HYGIENE PRODUCTS: DELIVERING SAFE, COMPLIANT AND EFFECTIVE PRODUCTS



Everyone uses tissue and hygiene products every day. Making sure they are strong, flexible and reliable for use is paramount. From the absorbency of nappies and the tear resistance of tissues, to the quality of paper napkins and adhesiveness of sanitary products, these are all characteristics you need to be able to guarantee your customers.

SGS's quality assurance and performance services can help you to ensure the quality, safety, efficacy and regulatory compliance of your products. Our laboratories and field operations offer tailor-made solutions to meet your chemical, physical, microbiological, ecotoxicological and claim support needs.

LEGISLATION & REGULATIONS GOVERNING TISSUE & HYGIENE

With a wide variety of products and applications in the tissue and hygiene sector, the industry is heavily reliant on self-regulation to ensure that products meet all relevant safety and quality regulations. Directly or indirectly, all tissue and hygiene products are subject to national and international standards, institutional guidelines and/or industry standards. We can ensure your products meet the guidelines for your chosen destination market(s).

Europe

- General Product Safety Directive (2001/95/EC)
- EU REACH (1907/2006/EC)
- EU Persistent Organic Pollutants (850/2004/EC)
- EU Regulation (93/42/EEC) for medical devices and pharmacopeia, where appropriate

US

The US has no product specific regulation, but labelling and packaging is governed by:

- FP&L Act 16 CFR 500/NIST Uniform Laws and Regulations Handbook 130
- 19 CFR 134

China/Hong Kong

There is no specific regulation, but Chinese Ministry of Health regulates various applicable standards, including:

- Sterilise Management Rule
- Disposable diaper for baby (CNS 12639)
- Disposable diaper for adult (CNS 13073)
- Toilet tissue paper (CNS 1091)
- Wet wipe (CNS 8157)
- Feminine sanitary napkins (CNS 9324)
- Paper underpants (GB/T 28005-2011, GB 5979)

In addition, paper hygiene products are also subject to local standards such as Germany's Food and Animal Feed Code (LFGB) and the Consumer Product's Safety Commission (CPSC) in the United States of America.

PRODUCTS COVERED

- **Baby hygiene & incontinence**
Baby diapers, adult diapers (light, medium, heavy incontinence), and training pants
- **Feminine hygiene**
Pads, periodic tampons, sanitary towels, and panty liners
- **Paper hygiene**
Facial tissues, toilet paper, kitchen paper towels, paper napkins
- **Other disposable hygiene products**
Cotton wool, cotton swabs, make-up removing pads/discs, dry and wet wipes, optical wipes, elastic/crepe/gauze bandages, compresses, strapping bands, breast pads, raw materials (non-woven, perforated veil)



SGS TESTING AND QUALITY ASSURANCE SERVICES DEMONSTRATE THE USABILITY AND RELIABILITY OF TISSUE & HYGIENE PRODUCTS

Most tissue and hygiene products are single use and/or disposable, but this does not mean they should be any less reliable, functional, safe or environmentally sensitive than any other consumer product.

Deliver desirable, safe and effective products with our one-stop solutions.

PRODUCT TESTING

- **Physical testing:** Evaluates the mechanical properties of your product (e.g. dimension (length, width), color/brightness, appearance and odour, fibrous composition, pH value, count of rolls/sheets)
- **Chemical testing:** Ensures ingredients (e.g. azo dyes, monomeric acrylic acid, phthalates, halogen-organic compounds, organotin compounds, PAHs and CFCs, formaldehyde, glyoxal and heavy metals, allergenic perfumes) meet the chemical regulations for restrictions and limits.
- **Microbiological testing:** Identifies degrees of microbial contamination, including bacteria, mould, yeast and pathogens.
- **Ecotoxicological and biodegradability testing:** Ensures that products are safe for the environment and meet regulatory requirements.

CLAIM SUPPORT/PERFORMANCE TESTING

In a crowded and competitive sector, we can help you to not only verify the safety and quality of your products, but also to confirm your product claims. As an independent third-party, SGS conducts product evaluations either via lab testing or consumer panel testing.

Performance tests include: absorbency, mechanical resistance, breathability, elasticity, integrity, adhesivity, colourfastness, fibre loss, seal testing.

Consumer panel studies, conducted with a large number of testers can offer you insight into consumer opinion, product positioning against and comparison with competitors, as well as consumer reaction to a product's organoleptic claims (touch, smell, visual, etc.).

PACKAGING TESTING

Tissue and hygiene are packaged in a variety of cartons, pouches and bags. The selection of packaging materials and containers involves considerations of product compatibility and stability, cost, package safety, solid waste impact, shelf appeal and ease of use. We can help you with:

- Performance tests (e.g. drop tests, opening/closing tests, ageing tests)
- Physical/chemical tests (e.g. migration, heavy metals, SVHCs)
- Assessment of environmental impact.
- End of life and ecotoxicity

CONSULTANCY SERVICES

- Development of new methods
- Implementation of client's methods
- Benchmarking
- Technical support for the ecological quality marks (e.g. EU Ecolabel)
- Documentation review: labelling review, including warnings and ingredients list; validation of documents including claims of a certain product; creation or validation of material safety data sheets (MSDS)

AUDITS & INSPECTIONS

Our audit services look beyond the product, and into your manufacturing facilities to determine whether proper controls and practices are being followed. Ensure the factory you have selected will be able to deliver products on time, to the specified quality, quantity

and schedule. Support this commitment and build your brand reputation by checking that factories respect local and international requirements:

- Factory audits
- Social/ethical audits
- Environmental audits

Quality control is an ongoing process. From raw materials, through the production process to delivery and in-store presentation, we can inspect your products at every step: raw materials inspection; production inspections; loading supervision; and retail store check/mystery shopping.

THINKING SUSTAINABLY

Our global network of sustainability experts can support your company in understanding the environmental aspects of the product's life cycle, from manufacturing through their use and disposal. We offer a wide range of services including eco-labelling; ecodesign services; restricted substances management; life cycle assessment; product carbon footprint analysis and certification marks; and, packaging eco-assessment rating.

WHY SGS?

SGS is a trusted, independent third party service provider. We provide a single consolidated source for tailored services, consulting solutions and technical assistance to reduce risks, improve efficiency and quality.

CONTACT US

For more information please contact your local SGS representative

Or contact our global team
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and visit www.sgs.com/tissuehygiene

SGS IS THE WORLD'S LEADING INSPECTION, VERIFICATION, TESTING AND CERTIFICATION COMPANY.