

## Ontex introduces two innovations in the popular baby pants and adult pants categories

- Two categories with high market growth as consumers increasingly shift to these forms
- Ontex has outperformed the growing disposable pants market in 2022 and continues to grow sales with double-digits this year
- Ontex's Dreamshield<sup>™</sup> and X-CORE technologies meet consumer demand for ease of use, discretion and leakage protection

**Aalst, Belgium, August 23, 2023** – Ontex Group NV ("Ontex"), a leading international provider of personal hygiene solutions is introducing two innovations in fast-growing baby pants and adult pants businesses, in which the company has outperformed the growing disposable pants market in 2022 and continues to grow sales with double-digits this year.

**Baby Pants** are a popular alternative to open diapers for babies, especially in Europe; According to Nielsen data for the 12-month period ending in April 2023, baby pants are the only volume-growing segment in Europe, with a notable growth rate of 13%, which is largely driven by retail brands. According to Euromonitor, baby pants are expected to continue to drive the category growth over the next five years. The growing acceptance of pants among parents is a key factor behind this trend. Baby pants have traditionally been designed to assist parents in the early stages of potty training, making it easier for children to transition from diapers to regular underwear. Besides the design of baby pants has evolved, and they now offer a true alternative to traditional open diapers. To fuel that trend, Ontex is introducing **Dreamshield<sup>™</sup> back pocket** to upgrade leakage protection, which is a key driver for parents to shift more to pants to more extended usage including at night.

The market for **adult disposable pants** is also growing. "When it comes to absorbent pants for adults, many people were taken by surprise - but not us," says Annick De Poorter, Chief Innovation and Sustainability Officer at Ontex. "We have been at the forefront of the development thanks to our experience in the healthcare sector. We know that many people have moderate incontinence and lead active lives, so we make sure our pants are affordable, discreet and easy to wear. We estimate that one in four women over the age of forty and one in nine men over sixty have some form of incontinence, so adult incontinence pants can enable many people to live a normal life." To further improve its offering, Ontex has launched an innovative core that improves performance thanks to its **channeled X-CORE technology**, of which the design squarely meets the top 3 needs of consumers in this category, protection, comfort and discretion.

## Learn more

To read more about Dreamshield<sup>™</sup> and X-CORE, visit <u>https://ontex.com/products/innovative-products/</u>







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## About Ontex

Ontex is a leading international developer and producer of hygienic products and solutions for retailers and healthcare, with expertise in baby care, feminine care and adult care. Ontex's innovative products are distributed in around 100 countries through leading retailer brands, lifestyle brands and Ontex brands. Employing some 7,500 people all over the world, Ontex has a presence in 20 countries, with its headquarters in Aalst, Belgium. Ontex is listed on Euronext Brussels and is part of the Bel Mid<sup>®</sup>. To keep up with the latest news, visit <u>ontex.com</u> or follow Ontex on <u>LinkedIn</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u> and <u>YouTube</u>.

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