

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Electrostatics –
Part 5-1: Protection of electronic devices from electrostatic phenomena –
General requirements**

**Electrostatique –
Part 5-1: Protection des dispositifs électroniques contre les phénomènes
électrostatiques – Exigences générales**



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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

ELECTROSTATICS –

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FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 61340-5-1 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 101: Electrostatics.

This first edition cancels and replaces the technical specification published in 1998. It constitutes a technical revision.

The main changes with respect to the previous edition are listed below:

This version of IEC 61340-5-1 focuses on the requirements for an ESD control program. In addition, this version of IEC 61340-5-1 has been aligned with other major ESD control program standards used throughout the world.

The text of this standard is based on the following documents:

FDIS	Report on voting
101/249/FDIS	101/251/RVD

Full information on the voting for the approval of this standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

A list of all parts in the IEC 61340 series, under the general title *Electrostatics*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until the maintenance result date indicated on the IEC web site under "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific publication. At this date, the publication will be

- reconfirmed;
- withdrawn;
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

Withdrawn

INTRODUCTION

This part of IEC 61340 covers the requirements necessary to design, establish, implement and maintain an electrostatic discharge (ESD) control program for activities that: manufacture, process, assemble, install, package, label, service, test, inspect, transport or otherwise handle electrical or electronic parts, assemblies and equipment susceptible to damage by electrostatic discharges greater than or equal to 100 V human body model (HBM). This standard covers the ESD control program requirements necessary for setting up a program to handle ESD-sensitive devices (ESDs), based on the historical experience of both military and commercial organizations. The fundamental ESD control principles that form the basis of this standard are as follows:

- avoid a discharge from any charged, conductive object (personnel and especially automated handling equipment) into the ESDS. This can be accomplished by bonding or electrically connecting all conductors in the environment, including personnel, to a known ground or contrived ground (as on board ship or on aircraft). This attachment creates an equipotential balance between all conducting objects and personnel. Electrostatic protection can be maintained at a potential different from a “zero” voltage ground potential as long as all conductive objects in the system are at the same potential;
- avoid a discharge from any charged ESD sensitive device. Charging can result from direct contact and separation or it can be field induced. Necessary insulators in the environment cannot lose their electrostatic charge by attachment to ground. Ionization systems provide neutralization of charges on these necessary insulators (circuit board materials and some device packages are examples of necessary insulators). Assessment of the ESD hazard created by electrostatic charges on the necessary insulators in the work place is required to ensure that appropriate actions are implemented, according to the risk;
- once outside of an electrostatic discharge protected area (hereinafter referred to as an EPA) it is often not possible to control the above items, therefore, ESD protective packaging may be required. ESD protection can be achieved by enclosing ESD sensitive products in static protective materials, although the type of material depends on the situation and destination. Inside an EPA, static dissipative materials may provide adequate protection. Outside an EPA, static discharge shielding materials are recommended. Whilst all of these materials are not discussed in this standard, it is important to recognize the differences in their application.

Each company has different processes, and so will require a different blend of ESD prevention measures for an optimum ESD control program. It is vital that these measures are selected, based on technical necessity and carefully documented in an ESD control program plan, so that all concerned can be sure of the program requirements.

Training is an essential part of an ESD control program in order to ensure that the personnel involved understand the equipment and procedures they are to use in order to be in compliance with the ESD control program plan. Training is also essential in raising awareness and understanding of ESD issues. Without training, personnel are often a major source of ESD risk. With training, they become an effective first line of defence against ESD damage.

Regular compliance verification checks and tests are essential to ensure that equipment remains effective and that the ESD control program is correctly implemented in compliance with the ESD control program plan.

Any contact and physical separation of materials or flow of solids, liquids, or particle-laden gases can generate electrostatic charges. Common sources of ESD include charged: personnel, conductors, common polymeric materials, and processing equipment. ESD damage can occur when:

- a charged person or object comes into contact with an ESDS;
- an ESDS comes into direct contact with a highly conductive surface while exposed to an electrostatic field;
- a charged ESDS comes into contact with another conductive surface which is at a different electrical potential. This surface may or may not be grounded.

Examples of ESDS are microcircuits, discrete semiconductors, thick and thin film resistors, hybrid devices, printed circuit boards and piezoelectric crystals. It is possible to determine device and item susceptibility by exposing the device to simulated ESD events. The level of sensitivity, determined by test using simulated ESD events, may not necessarily relate to the level of sensitivity in a real life situation. However, they are used to establish a baseline of susceptibility data for comparison of devices with equivalent part numbers from different manufacturers. Three different models are used for characterization of electronic components - human body model (HBM), machine model (MM), and charged device model (CDM).