

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

# NORME INTERNATIONALE

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

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



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COMMISSION

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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

## ELECTROSTATICS –

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

## FOREWORD

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

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition published in 2007. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition:

- a) Technical requirements were changed to align IEC 61340-5-1 with other industry ESD standards;
- b) Reference documents were updated to reflect newly released IEC standards;
- c) A section on product qualification was added;
- d) Table 4 was deleted and detailed packaging requirements were deferred to IEC 61340-5-3;

e) Clause A.1 was removed and is now included in IEC 61340-4-6.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
101/505/FDIS	101/508/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, published 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 stability date indicated on the IEC website 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- withdrawn,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.

## 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), 200 V charged device model (CDM) and 35 V on isolated conductors. Isolated conductors were historically represented by machine model (MM). The 35 V limit is related to the level achievable using ionizers specified in this standard. The MM test is no longer required for qualification of devices, only the HBM and CDM tests are. The MM test is retained in this standard for process control of isolated conductors only.

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 ESD sensitive device (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 ESD withstand voltage determined by sensitivity tests using simulated ESD events does not necessarily represent the ability of the device to withstand ESD from real sources at that voltage level. However, the levels of sensitivity are used to establish a baseline of susceptibility data for comparison of devices with equivalent part numbers from different manufacturers. Three different models have been used for qualification of electronic components – human body model (HBM), machine model (MM), and charged device model (CDM). In current practice devices are qualified only using HBM and CDM susceptibility tests.

This standard covers the ESD control program requirements necessary for setting up a program to handle 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 induced by an electric field. 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). The ESD hazard created by electrostatic charges on the necessary insulators in the work place is assessed 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 generally 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. For more information see IEC 61340-5-3.

Each company has different processes, and so will require a different blend of ESD prevention measures for an optimum ESD control program. Measures should be 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.

## ELECTROSTATICS –

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

#### 1 Scope

This part of IEC 61340 applies to activities that: manufacture, process, assemble, install, package, label, service, test, inspect, transport or otherwise handle electrical or electronic parts, assemblies and equipment with withstand voltages greater than or equal to 100 V HBM, 200 V CDM and 35 V for isolated conductors. ESDS with lower withstand voltages may require additional control elements or adjusted limits. Processes designed to handle items that have lower ESD withstand voltage(s) can still claim compliance to this standard.

This standard provides the requirements for an ESD control program. IEC TR 61340-5-2 [9]<sup>1</sup> provides guidance on the implementation of this standard.

This standard does not apply to electrically initiated explosive devices, flammable liquids, gases and powders.

The purpose of this standard is to provide the administrative and technical requirements for establishing, implementing and maintaining an ESD control program (hereinafter referred to as the “program”).

NOTE Isolated conductors were historically represented by MM.

#### 2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

IEC 61340-2-3, *Electrostatics – Part 2-3: Methods of test for determining the resistance and resistivity of solid planar materials used to avoid electrostatic charge accumulation*

IEC 61340-4-1, *Electrostatics – Part 4-1: Standard test methods for specific applications – Electrical resistance of floor coverings and installed floors*

IEC 61340-4-3, *Electrostatics – Part 4-3: Standard test methods for specific applications – Footwear*

IEC 61340-4-5, *Electrostatics – Part 4-5: Standard test methods for specific applications – Methods for characterizing the electrostatic protection of footwear and flooring in combination with a person*

IEC 61340-4-6, *Electrostatics – Part 4-6: Standard test methods for specific applications – Wrist straps*

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<sup>1</sup> Numbers in square brackets refer to the bibliography.