

ANSI/ESD STM12.1-2013

ESD Association Standard Test Method

ANSI/ESD STM12.1-2013
Revision of ANSI/ESD STM12.1-2006

*For the Protection of Electrostatic
Discharge Susceptible Items*

Seating – Resistance Measurements



*Electrostatic Discharge Association
7900 Turin Road, Bldg. 3
Rome, NY 13440*

*An American National Standard
Approved May 5, 2014*

*ESD Association Standard Test Method for
the Protection of Electrostatic Discharge
Susceptible Items -
Seating – Resistance Measurements*

Approved July 15, 2013
ESD Association



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FOREWORD

This standard test method¹ is intended to provide test methods for evaluating seating used to control electrostatic discharge. This standard test method covers all types of seating including chairs and stools.

This standard test method is limited to defining procedures for measuring electrical resistance. Electrical resistance is one property that can be used to evaluate the electrostatic dissipation of seating intended for use in ESD controlled areas. Resistance, however, does not fully characterize seating. An additional property to be considered in the selection and use of seating includes triboelectric charge generation.

One source of electrostatic charge generation in a work environment is the separation of personnel from chairs, stools or other types of seating along with the movement of seating across the floor. This results in the generation of electrostatic charge that can accumulate on the seating and on personnel. The affect of this generation and accumulation of electrostatic charge can be minimized with the appropriate selection of seating.

To effectively control electrostatic discharge, seating must be used in combination with an ESD controlled floor or mat. Seating is not a primary means of controlling electrostatic charge buildup on personnel in an ESD protective work area. Personal wrist straps or other means of personnel grounding should be used for this purpose.

This document was originally designated ESD STM12.1-1997 and approved on September 20, 1997. ANSI/ESD STM12.1-2006 was a reaffirmation of ESD STM12.1-1997 and was approved on February 26, 2006. ANSI/ESD STM12.1-2013 is a revision of ANSI/ESD STM12.1-2006 and was approved on July 15, 2013.

At the time ANSI/ESD STM12.1-2013 was prepared, the 12.0 Seating Subcommittee had the following members:

	Bill DeJean, Chair TDI International	
Guy Kasai Gibo Kodama Chairs	John Kinnear, TAS Rep IBM	Scott Ward Texas Instruments

At the time ESD STM12.1-1997 was prepared, the 12.0 Seating Subcommittee had the following members:

	Stanley Weitz, Chair Electro-Tech Systems, Inc.	
Jim Frobose Biofit	Larry Fromm Hewlett- Packard	David Gerke Eck Adams
Ken Hansen Tellabs	Don Hyman Storage Technology	Tom Judkins Gibo Kodama
	Arnold Krumrie Steelcase	

¹ **Standard Test Method (STM):** A definitive procedure for the identification, measurement and evaluation of one or more qualities, characteristics or properties of a material, product, system or process that yield a **reproducible test** result.

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