

## **What are the Precautions to be taken to avoid static electricity damage?**

1. Be cautious when working around or with electronics during the dry months of the year. Discharge yourself often, and think before you touch a static sensitive device. Static electricity may be free, but it can be costly.
2. When working with any electronic equipment it is best to be sure you are totally discharged by touching something that is metal.
3. Before handling electronic components, it's important to realize that semiconductors can be damaged by high voltage "static electricity" carried on your body.
4. Integrated circuits and transistors have several connections. If all of these connections are at the same voltage, there is no potential difference across them and no damage will result. However, if just one of the connections sees a different voltage from the rest, damage may occur. Protect them by connecting all of the pins together or wrap them in Aluminium foil.
5. Increase humidity. Static effect is increased in environments of low humidity. Buildings using air-conditioning, high levels of heating, or those with a lot of insulation can have low humidity. Increase the airflow into the room. It will remove static electricity.
6. When working with sensitive electrical components or volatile materials (such as papers/powders/flammable liquids) sparks and electrical discharge can cause catastrophic failure in sensitive electrical components and ignite volatile substances. Take steps to eliminate them: