



**CO-ORDINATION OF NOTIFIED BODIES  
PPE-Directive 89/686/EEC + amendments**

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**RECOMMENDATION FOR USE**

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Origin: INESCOP		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vertical Group	16/03/07
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Question related to: Electrostatic discharges (ESD)	EN ISO 20345	Other:
Annex:	Article:	Clause:

Key words:  
Electrostatic footwear

Question:  
This issue has already been dealt with in RU 10.050, but relating to the former standard. There are new standards used for the protection of electronic components, and footwear is still marked with ESD, which can lead to confusion.




Fig. 5 – Ejemplo de etiqueta para el equipo

Solution:  
There is no reason for marking “ESD” on footwear. These letters simply mean “Electrostatic Discharge” and there is no standard that either authorizes or defines this marking.  
The standard EN 61340-5-1 includes test methods but concerning footwear the test method is only related to the workplace. The standard allows the use of a logo (see Fig. 5 in this standard) to mark the equipment to be used in an EPA area, but it should not serve as a basis to certify or mark anything, since the results depend on the operator and how wet is the inside due to sweat.  
The standard to be used for laboratory testing or as a basis for certifying or marking something should be EN 61340-4-3:2001. Footwear should be marked as conductive or dissipative (and no way as “ESD”) and the environmental class (1, 2 or 3) should be indicated. Marking with a logo is only mentioned in EN 61340-5-1, but the method defined in that standard is not considered as valid for laboratory use. It is therefore not possible to recommend the use of the ESD marking in the laboratory test report.

Sent to:  members of the VG    other(s) VG    HC (2)    TC (3)    SC (4)    other (5)

(1) Essential safety requirement  
(2) HC = horizontal committee

(3) N° of CEN/TC (Secretary & Chairman)  
(4) EEC Standing Committee 89/392

(5) To be specified

