Self-Grounding Esd Tables

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SELF-GROUNDING ESD TABLES

ABSTRACT

A system and method that provide self-grounding to an electrostatic discharge (ESD) table is disclosed. The system includes a workbench that has an ESD dissipative top. The top is connected to the foot of the workbench through a boot that effectively grounds the workbench on an ESD protected passing floor. With the passing floor as the grounding source the system may be freely moved without installing additional grounding cables. The method keeps the sensitive computer components safe and allows work to be set up anywhere in a building that has the ESD protected passing floor. The advantages of the self-grounding ESD table are, as long as the passing floor passes the ANSI standards for floors, the table may dissipate ESD no matter where it is set up. The system need not be placed near an outlet or grounding point of the building.

BACKGROUND

Industries need to protect their production areas from electrostatic discharge (ESD). Hence ESD resistant furniture such as ESD workstation tables is used. This furniture sends electrical charges to an earthing point or through a cable to the ground. In data centers ESD tables are put up beside an outlet or cable drops may be run on to the position on the floor to plug in the table and make it ESD safe. Due to the fluid nature of work in data centers, the cable drops may have to be frequently installed, moved, or removed constantly as the buildings and equipment change. This disclosure eliminates the difficulty in moving and grounding the ESD resistant furniture.
DESCRIPTION

A system and method that provides self-grounding to an ESD table is disclosed. The system as shown in FIG. 1 includes a workbench that has an ESD dissipative top. The top is connected to the foot of the workbench through a conductive boot that effectively grounds the workbench on an ESD protected passing floor. With the passing floor as the grounding source the system may be freely moved without installing additional grounding cables, while being compliant with ANSI s20.20 Standards. The method of self-grounding the ESD table includes placing the foot of the workbench on the ESD protected passing floor. The method keeps the sensitive computer components safe and allows work to be set up anywhere in a building that has the ESD protected passing floor.

The advantages of the self-grounding ESD table are, as long as the passing floor passes the ANSI standards for floors, the table may dissipate ESD no matter where it is set up. The system need not be placed near an outlet or grounding point of the building.

FIG. 1: Self-grounding the workbench on an ESD protected passing floor