

## ANTISTATIC FINISH – CONCLUDING PART

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### Summary

The market for anti-static apparels is constantly growing on a global scale. According to the latest issue of Performance Apparel Markets, static electricity is generally harmless to the individual. However, it causes damage to products in the electronics and computer industry. One such source of generating static electricity is apparel because people are the greatest source of static charge in the workplace.

The amount of static electricity we experience varies according to factors such as our body size and foot size. Larger body and bigger feet require more charge to be stored to produce the same voltage. The material our clothes are made from and the soles of our shoes can influence static electricity. Weather affects it as well there is more build-up of static charge when the air is dry.

Electrical components can be damaged by a few volts. It is estimated that one of the causes of product losses is due to static electricity.

Anti-static clothing is required to prevent damage to electrical components or to prevent fires and explosions when working with flammable liquids and gases. If not controlled, static electricity can cause product damage and lead to machinery downtime, lost man hours and other costs, particularly in the semiconductor and electronics industry. Therefore it has become a high priority in this industry for anti-static apparel.

The largest end use for anti-static apparel is in the workwear category. The largest consumers are companies working in electronics and computers. Motor vehicle manufacturers are also significant consumers because of the increasing number of electronic circuit boards in vehicles.

Anti-static materials are also used in carpets, filters, electrostatic brushes, conveyor belts, underwear, cleanroom fabrics and smart textiles. All are niche markets for anti-static products.



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