

# Technical Bulletin

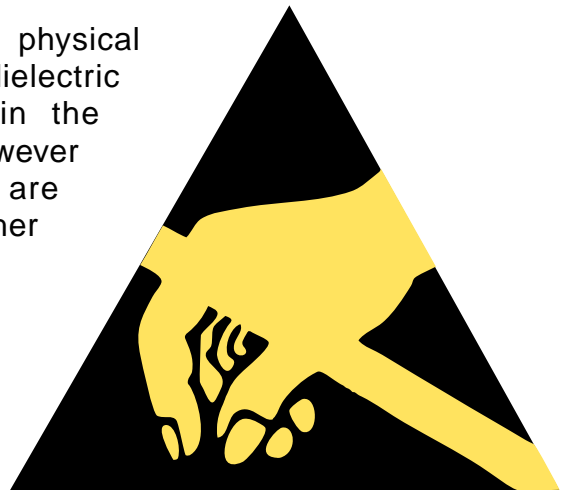
## Electrostatic Discharge Precautions TB 1003

The increasingly complex nature of electronic systems has significantly increased the potential for damage from electrostatic discharge.

Damage can occur in several ways but the most common is by physical contact. Electrostatic energy can build up on the surfaces of skin and clothing and can be discharged into electronic equipment by touching it.

Some electronic devices can be damaged without physical contact by strong electric fields which exceed the dielectric breakdown voltage of capacitive elements within the device. This type of damage is much more rare however and is unlikely to occur where circuit boards are mounted in control equipment and connected to other parts of the system.

All Kentec products are manufactured tested and stored in static safe environments and susceptible equipment is marked with the recognised international symbol shown here to the right.



WHERE THIS SYMBOL IS SEEN STATIC DISCHARGE PRECAUTIONS MUST BE OBSERVED.

These are as follows:

Never touch electronic components unless necessary.

If it is necessary, touch a sound earth point at the same time or wear a protective static discharge wrist strap.

Never plug in or unplug connectors or make any connections with power applied to the equipment.

Always replace service replacement items in static protective packaging.

These simple precautions will enhance the reliability of electronic equipment by reducing the risk of static damage which may not be immediately apparent but may lead to failure at a later date.