



Designation: ~~F1812–09~~ F1812 – 15

# Standard Test Method for ~~Determining the Effectiveness of Membrane Switch ESD~~ Shielding Effect of an ESD Discharge on a Membrane Switch or Printed Electronic Device<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F1812; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reappraisal. A superscript epsilon ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reappraisal.

## 1. Scope

1.1 This test method is used to determine the electrostatic discharge (ESD) shielding effectiveness of a membrane switch ~~assembly~~ assembly or printed electronic device. This test method may be used to test a membrane switch or printed electronic device to destruction, that is, to determine its maximum ESD shielding effectiveness, or it may be used to test the ability of a membrane switch or printed electronic device to withstand a predetermined level of exposure.

1.2 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as the standard. The values given in parentheses are for information only.

1.3 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

## 2. Terminology

2.1 *Definitions:*

2.1.1 *discharge pulse count*—number of applied discharges.

2.1.2 *discharge pulse interval*—time duration between applied voltage.

2.1.3 *ESD (electrostatic discharge) event*—detection of applied charge at input/output (I/O) points.

2.1.4 *I/O points*—specified conductive area, location, or circuitry, typically all circuit paths, traces and wires.

## 3. Significance and Use

3.1 Nearly all electronic devices are susceptible to possible damage or degradation from ESD encountered in their operating environments. The sensitivity of the equipment, the potential consequences of a malfunction, and the expected environmental conditions all impact the level of ESD protection needed.

3.2 ESD shielding effectiveness test may be destructive, and units that have been tested should be considered unreliable for future use.

## 4. Interferences

4.1 The following parameters may affect the results of this test:

4.1.1 Temperature may affect the tendency of an ESD event to occur,

4.1.2 Relative humidity may affect the tendency of an ESD event to occur,

4.1.3 Barometric pressure may affect the tendency of an ESD event to occur, and

4.1.4 The composition of the work bench may influence the test results.

## 5. Apparatus

5.1 *Discharge Probe.*

5.2 *ESD Simulator*—Commercially available device for applying required or specified voltages, monitoring for ESD event and selecting various voltage levels, and probes for contact or air discharge.

<sup>1</sup> This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F01 on Electronics and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F01.18 on ~~Membrane Switches~~ Printed Electronics.

Current edition approved ~~June 15, 2009~~ June 1, 2015. Published ~~August 2009~~ July 2015. Originally approved in 1997. Last previous edition approved in ~~2002~~ 2009 as F1812-02-09. DOI: ~~10.1520/F1812-09~~ 10.1520/F1812-15.