



CAUTION



PREVENTING CIRCUIT DAMAGE FROM ELECTROSTATIC DISCHARGE

Electronic printed circuit board assemblies are susceptible to physical damage, for example, broken components due to rough handling. In addition, printed circuit board assemblies (and their components, such as EPROMs) are subject to damage by various types of static electricity. Damage of this type is called **ELECTROSTATIC DISCHARGE (ESD)**. ESD can cause immediate damage to components on a circuit board assembly, or it can weaken them to the point where the damage will show up days, weeks, or months later.

PRECAUTIONS TO TAKE WHEN HANDLING PCB ASSEMBLIES

1. The PCB assembly is usually shipped in a cardboard shipping carton to prevent physical damage. Inside the carton, the PCB was placed in 1 of 3 types of closed protective bags: black translucent, smoked gray transparent, or pink transparent.
2. For storage, the best protection for the assembly is to leave it in its shipping carton. If it is removed from the carton, leave the assembly in its **CLOSED** storage bag while transporting, or until it is ready to be installed in a machine.
3. Before handling the PCB assembly, be sure you are wearing a conductive wrist strap or other suitable ESD protective device. The conductive wrist strap should be connected to ground in the machine. This can be any **PLATED** exposed metal part. **DO NOT CONNECT YOUR WRIST STRAP TO A PAINTED PART.**
4. Remove the new PCB assembly from its bag. Set the PCB assembly on top of the bag on a flat surface while you remove the old PCB assembly from the machine.
5. Pick up the new PCB assembly and set the old one down on the protective bag. Install the new PCB assembly in the machine.
6. Insert the old PCB assembly into the protective bag. Seal the bag.
7. If the old PCB assembly is to be returned to National Vendors, it is best to ship it in the same shipping carton you received with the new PCB assembly.