B.3 Beyond ANSI/ESD S20.20: High Reliability ESD Control Processes and Lower ESD Sensitivities

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ANSI/ESD S20.20-2014 provides specific requirements for the control of electrostatic discharges greater than or equal to 100 volts HBM, 200 volts CDM, and 35 volts on isolated conductors, which is the basis for an effective ESD control program. ANSI/ESD S20.20 has a caveat that states, "Activities that handle items that are susceptible to lower withstand voltages may require additional control elements or adjusted limits". What should we consider when adding new control elements or adjusting the existing limits?

Additionally, ANSI/ESD S20.20 does not address the processing of high reliability products. For example, ANSI/ESD S20.20 draws no distinction between the ESD controls required for a "cheap throw-away" consumer electronics item versus an electronic item used for life support or other high reliability purposes. Here again, we may want to add additional controls or adjust limits.

EOS/ESD Association recently created a working group (WG-19) to address high reliability products and processing of sensitive items with withstand voltages below 100 volts HBM and 200 volts.

The purpose of this workshop is to introduce participants to the WG-19 efforts and to have an open discussion of some possible ways to modify ESD practices in order to address these two areas of concern.