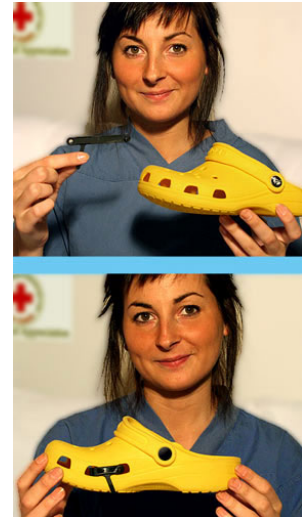


Crocs shoes made safe for hospital use thanks to Swedish physician!

Intensive Care physician Mikael Stenberg and Business Development Manager Jonas Hansson have devised a small clip, 'Safeclip', which makes your Crocs soft plastic shoes safe for use in hospitals and other workplaces where sensitive electronic equipment is present. Safeclip is simply attached to one of your shoes to unload static electricity which otherwise could damage sensitive electronic equipment.



Crocs shoes are very popular footwear in many workplaces because they are both comfortable and functional. Unfortunately, they have been banned in some workplaces due to insulating properties. 'When I thought about the problem with static electricity the idea of placing an electrically conducting detail on the shoe occurred to me. I contacted Jonas Hansson, and together we developed the product 'Safeclip', says Mikael Stenberg.

Safeclip is specially designed for Crocs shoes. With a simple 'snap', the clip is attached to one of your shoes without any special tools. Once in place on your shoe, Safeclip conducts static electrical charge to the ground before it can build up, explains Jonas Hansson.

Safeclip has a patent-pending protective effect for the wearer.

- Safeclip is made of an electricity-conducting plastic with a high electrical resistance. This means that Safeclip limits the amount of electrical current and reduces injuries in the case that the user by accident comes in contact with an unprotected high voltage electrical source such as 110 or 220 V sources. Clips made of metal potentially can be dangerous and even deadly for a wearer in the event of an electrical accident involving large amounts of electrical current, explains Jonas Hansson.

Safeclip has been tested and approved according to IEC 61340-4-3 by the SP Technical Research Institute of Sweden. Safeclip satisfies the hospital requirement for anti-static protection for soft plastic shoes.

Safeclip reduces static electricity by creating contact between the wearer's foot and the floor. This means that each time you place your shoe on the floor, static electricity that has built up in your body can be discharged, just like when you walk barefoot. Thanks to repeated contact with the ground, static electricity which potentially can damage sensitive electrical devices does not build up in the wearer. The risk for unpleasant static electrical shocks is also reduced, says Mikael Stenberg

For more information go to: www.safeclip.se

What is Safeclip?

Safeclip is a (patent-applied) band made from a special electricity-conducting plastic which can be attached without any tools and fits firmly on your Crocs shoes. When Safeclip is mounted on your shoe, static electricity is led away from your body while you stand or walk. Safeclip has been tested together with Crocs shoes by the the Technical Research Institute of Sweden. They found that Safeclip effectively dissipates static electricity before it reaches dangerous levels and Safeclip has received a normal anti-static classification (of electrostatic discharge safety). Safeclip insures you can use your Crocs shoes in workplaces with sensitive electrical devices.

- Works as a conductor from your shoes to the floor or ground when you stand or walk.
- Protects sensitive electronic instruments.
- Reduces risk for unpleasant static shocks.
- You do not feel the Safeclip, and it is not in the way.
- Can be attached without need for tools.
- Is approved according to IEC 61340-4-3.

How does the Safeclip work?

Safeclip solves this problem by forming electrical contact between the foot and the floor. This means that each time you put your foot on the floor, electricity is led away from you body and into the floor, just as if you were barefoot. Damage to sensitive electrical instruments and equipment is prevented by Safeclip which conducts away any potentially strong electrostatic build-up. The risk that you would get an unpleasant spark when you touch an object that is earthed is also reduced.

Protective function

Safeclip is manufactured from an electricity conducting plastic with high natural conductive resistance. Patent is pending. This means that Safeclip limits the amount of current that can be damaging if the carrier accidentally comes in contact with a high voltage source (for example 220V). Safeclip prevents direct short-circuiting by discharge to the ground, in contrast to earthed equipment constructed of metal. Important: in order to decrease the risk of electrical injuries in connection with electrical installations, Safeclip should be removed from the shoe (despite its protective function).

What is static electricity and electrostatic discharge?

Up until the eighteenth century, static electricity was the only known form of electricity.

Static electricity can occur when 2 materials are rubbed against each other. This is illustrated by the effect seen at children's parties when balloons are rubbed against ones hair then stick to the walls or ceiling.

Static electricity arises when there is an uneven distribution of electrical charge at rest. This uneven charge becomes static when the positive and negative charges are separated by an isolating layer, since an electricity conductor would just lead away any electrical current to even out the different charges. In nature, electrical currents can occur, for example lightning between 2 clouds which have different electrical charges, or between the clouds and the ground.

ESD is caused when an object which holds a static electrical charge is unloaded by coming in contact with, or coming close enough to, another object which has a different electrostatic charge. An electrostatic discharge usually occurs very quickly, and the charge can reach thousands of volts. Electrostatic discharge from objects we come in contact with everyday can cause discomfort, but generally is not directly dangerous for people. On the other hand, these discharges can disturb or damage sensitive electronic equipment, including internal computer parts. They can also cause ignition of flammable fluids or explosive gases.

ESD-protection guards against strong electrostatic discharges occurring in sensitive workplaces. ESD-protection is used where sensitive electrical circuits are present or when sparks must be avoided because of the presence of explosive substances or gases.

In workplaces with sensitive electrical equipment, it is common that the floor is made of conducting material which is earthed. Personnel are required to wear special shoes and electrically conducting worktables used which are connected to earthed wires.

Personnel can wear armbands which are earthed, and they are encouraged not to wear clothes made of certain materials including wool and nylon.

For more information:
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