3M

9500 Series Static Control Anti-Fatigue Mats/Runners

Practical Ergonomics and Cumulative Standing Trauma Reduction

Technical Information

BT 0807-1101 Nov 2001



Standing Fatigue

Standing for long periods of time on hard floor surfaces is one of the most common causes of physical fatigue. Physical fatigue occurs when muscles are constricted, causing reduced blood flow. The result is pain and discomfort. The heart is forced to work harder, and the body begins to run out of energy. Muscles ache and joints hurt.

Fatigue caused by long term standing is easily and too often overlooked. Workers, however, are suffering the consequences on a daily basis. Companies are losing literally billions of dollars per year in reduced productivity, increased health care and workers compensation costs, higher insurance rates and absenteeism.

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3M[™] 9500 Series Static Control Anti-Fatigue Mats/Runners

3M 9500 Series Anti-Fatigue matting may be the simplest and most effective way to reduce standing worker fatigue while providing ideal protection against static electricity problems. Physical fatigue is prevented by encouraging subtle movement of leg and calf muscles, which in turn promotes blood flow back to the heart. The use of 3M 9500 Series Anti-Fatigue Mats/Runners results in more comfortable, more productive workers.

The new 3M 9500 Series Static Control Anti-Fatigue Mats/Runners have excellent static control properties. They are carbon loaded rubber with the carbon being mixed evenly throughout the material to ensure the edges are as conductive as the center. Resistance from the surface of the mat to the grounding point – the truest measure of the mat's static draining capability – is typically in the range of $2.5 \times 10^4~\Omega$ to $1 \times 10^7~\Omega$ (measured according to ESD standard 7.1).

The rubber surface is bonded to a highly resilient anti-skid insulative sponge base. This construction provides outstanding cushioning and reduces stress on the spine and lower back muscles, which prevents worker fatigue.

Health, Productivity and Quality

In a formal study at the Center of Ergonomics, University of Michigan, Ergonomist Mark Redfern concluded that different floor surfaces can have dramatically different effects on physical fatigue. The study involved 14 subjects at the Ford Chesterfield Trim Plant who were required to stand throughout their entire shift. A variety of floor conditions were tested, from concrete to a rubber antifatigue mat. The conclusive results proved that workers who were forced to stand on hard concrete floors for long periods of time suffered significant levels of fatigue and discomfort in the legs, back and throughout the body while workers who stood on anti-fatigue mats were able to reduce their level of fatigue and discomfort by as much as 50%.

To increase productivity and decrease dollars spent on down time and health care, many companies are implementing quality programs. Quality, safety and ergonomics are so interdependent that one process cannot exist without the other. Successful quality programs require the support from all employees. The best way to get that support is to ensure the maximum level of performance and cooperation through ergonomic and safety programs. Healthier, happier employees are also more productive, efficient and safer employees. One of the most popular quality goals is zero defects. That same goal can easily be applied to ergonomics and safety – zero discomfort and fatigue, zero injuries, zero down-time.

3MTM 9500 Series Anti-Fatigue Mats/Runners are designed with this concept in mind.

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Available Sizes

3M 9500: 0.9m x 1.5m (includes one installed groundsnap and one 4.5m ground cord)

3M 9510: 0.9m up to 22.8m (includes one ground snap installed every 4.5m with appropriate number of ground cords)

Cleaning Instructions

3M 9500 Series Static Control Anti-Fatigue Mats/Runners can be cleaned by all common commercial detergents (3MTM 8001 Cleaner for Static Control Mats) and may be either scrubbed with a brush or damp mopped. Let dry before returning to service.

Be sure to read all Health Hazard, Precautionary, and First Aid statements found in the Material Safety Data Sheet and/or label of all cleaning solutions prior to handling or use.

Property	Test Method	Typical Value	
Electrical	ESD-S7.1	2.5×10^4 to $1 \times 10^7 \Omega$ (surface to ground point)	
Thickness	Caliper	12.7 mm	
Flammability	ASTM D 2859	Non-burning	
Tensile Strength	3M	630 psi	
Durometer	Shore A	82	
Temperature	3M	5 to 40 Degrees C	
Compression Strength (Resiliency)	ASTM 1667	Recovery after 30 minutes = 80% Recovery after 24 hours = 69%	
Chemical Deflection	ASTM 1056	3.0 - 5.0 psi	
Compression Set	ASTM 1056	Recovery after 24 hours = 77%	
Coefficient of Friction	ASTM 2047	Surpasses ADA and OSHA recommendations	
Chemical	ASTM D 543	Acetone Detergent Heptane Gasoline Isopropanol Mineral Oil Mineral Spirits Potassium Hydroxide Sodium Hydroxide Trichloroethylene Xylene	No visual effect

Table: 9500 Series Anti-Fatigue Mats/Runners Specifications

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