

# Solvent Exposure Compromises Some Antistatic Containers

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**Abstract**—Solvent coating solutions are often prepared in prep areas that must be rated C1D1 because flammable solvents are present in normal operations. Static sparks must be suppressed in C1D1 areas. One common practice is to use antistatic polyethylene containers.

We report resistivity measurements showing that exposure to the common solvents acetone, MEK, and isopropyl alcohol increase the surface resistivity of "pink PE" containers well into the insulating range. Consequently, I recommend that these containers be banned from C1D1 and C1D2 areas.