

## Bumps in the Night!!!!

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### Tools of the Trade

#### E-Pod

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A common report by clients and investigators during an investigation, is hair that will stand straight up, on their arms, legs, or back of their neck. Very similar to what happens to a person when a lightning storm is overhead or they rub a balloon on something and then move it above their arm. In order to detect the presence of static electricity within an area the E-Pod and its upgraded version, E-Pod Amp, was invented.

Before we go much further on the E-Pod we should define static electricity. Static electricity is an accumulation of an electric charge within an object...such as a person. This charge will remain until it can be discharged and/or escape from the stronger object to a weaker object that has an opposite charge. Normally objects contain equal numbers of positive and negative charges which makes them electrically neutral. When one of these charges is greater than the other an imbalance occurs, causing static electricity.

A common example of this is when a person walks on carpet in a heated house in the winter months. The person will build up a static charge and then when they touch another object, such as a person, doorknob, etc., a static charge will be discharged and a brief shock happens. Sometimes a pop sound is heard. If this is in a dimly lit area a spark can be seen. After this discharge both objects are back in balance again.

An E-Pod will detect static electricity (aka E-field) within proximity of it. The current models of E-Pods will detect this e-field for up to 12' away from it with a Reality Humidity (RH) condition of 35% or less. A single E-Pod can be used to monitor a room of the size 12' x 12'.

How the E-Pod works is that an LED light will come on, indicating E-pod activation as the electricity charge in the area changes from positive to negative or negative to positive. The LED will remain ON as long as static electricity is present. The three LEDs are **red**, **green**, and **blue**; each one indicating a distance for the detection. If the **green** light comes on it means the static is detected farther away from the E-Pod. If the **blue** light comes on it means the static is detected near the E-Pod. If the **red** light comes on it means the static is very close to the E-Pod.

The response time of the lights is within 100 milliseconds of the detection of E-field fluctuations and/or spikes. The E-field detection range for the E-Pod is from 500 millivolts (mV) to 700 Volts. The device also has a telescopic antenna with provides for 360 degree coverage of the area being monitored.

So if you or your team receive a lot of client reports of "hair standing up" and/or your team experiences this alot...the E-Pod might be a tool for you. To learn more please use the following sources:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Static\\_electricity](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Static_electricity)

<http://www.sciencemadesimple.com/static.html>

<http://www.electricityforum.com/static-electricity.html>

<http://www.answers.com/topic/static-electricity>

[http://www.myghostgear.com/catalog\\_i13085136.html?catId=381308](http://www.myghostgear.com/catalog_i13085136.html?catId=381308)