

3.6.6 Interference from Light (ultraviolet rays, sunlight, fluorescent lamps and incandescent lamps)

Light striking a semiconductor device generates electromotive force due to photoelectric effects. In some cases the device can malfunction. This is especially true for devices in which the internal chip is exposed. When designing circuits, make sure devices are protected against incident light from external sources. This problem is not limited to optical semiconductors and EPROMs. All types of device can be affected by light.

3.6.7 Dust and Oil

Just like corrosive gases, dust and oil can cause chemical reactions in devices, which will adversely affect a device's electrical characteristics. To avoid this problem, do not use devices in dusty or oily environments. This is especially important for optical devices because dust and oil can affect a device's optical characteristics as well as its physical integrity and the electrical performance factors mentioned above.

3.6.8 Fire

Semiconductor devices may be combustible; they can emit smoke and catch fire if heated sufficiently. When this happens, some devices may generate poisonous gases. Devices should therefore never be used in close proximity to an open flame or a heat-generating body, or near flammable or combustible materials.

3.7 Disposal of Devices and Packing Materials

When discarding unused devices and packing materials, follow all procedures specified by local regulations in order to protect the environment against contamination.

