Single-Use Products with Obvious Identification Mark

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates generally to the single-use products, and more particularly to the single-use products having at least one obvious identification mark thereon for easy recognition.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Single-use products such as bottled water, plastic or paper tableware are supplied and consumed widely at parties, sports events, rallies, meetings and for travel etc. However, the conventional single-use products look like each other. It is often difficult for a person to recognize the particular article belonging to him when more than one such articles are left in the same place. This situation leads to undesired waste of any remaining beverage or food and single-use products. If it were easy for a person to recognize his single-use product, the single-use products would be more friendly to environment since the person would consume any leftover beverage or food can and even use the same article for re-fills.

Some people generate an obvious identification mark on single-use products by themselves when they use them. For example, they draw symbols and write their initials on the single-use products. However, this method is not truly effective as most people do not carry indelible markers with them or even think of marking cheap disposable articles.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

According to embodiments of the present invention, at least one feature for creating identification marking is provided on the single-use products, in which the feature can be variably configured so that it is unique in a group of single-use products which have been manufactured in the same batch.

Advantages of embodiments of the invention include the provision of obvious identification marking which can be individualized and easily remembered by the consumer during a party or such events. In addition, there is provided an economical method and means for placing an identification mark on the single-use products which is commercially viable to implement.

Further details, features and advantages can be understood from the following description of embodiments of the present invention with reference to the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a front view of one aspect of an embodiment according to the invention.

FIG. 2 is a view of one aspect of an identification mark.

FIG. 3 is a top view of a water bottle with an identification mark.

FIG. 4 is a view of a cup with an identification mark.

FIG. 5 is a view of another identification mark with combination of animal and number.

FIG. 6 is a view of another identification mark with combination of shape and number.

FIG. 7 is a view of a plate with an identification mark on the internal surface.

FIG. 8 is an external view of a cup with an identification mark formed by engraving.

FIG. 9 is an internal view of a cup with an identification mark formed by engraving.

FIG. 10 is a box of water bottles with unique identification mark on each product.

FIG. 11 is a batch of cup with unique identification mark on each product.

FIG. 12 is the multi-box of water bottles with unique identification mark on each product.

FIG. 13 is the stickers of unique identification mark are packed with the single-use products together.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

As shown in FIG. 1, one example of an identification mark 100 is printed on a label 110 of a single-use product 120 according to an embodiment of the present invention is illustrated. The identification mark 100 can be part of the label 110. Also, an obvious identification mark 100 can be separate part as a sticker as shown in FIG. 2, then attached to the single-use product 120. The identification mark 100 may be obvious in that it is visible to the user or consumer when in use. For water bottle, an obvious identification mark 100 can be printed or attached to the water bottle cap 300 as shown in FIG. 3. For some single-use products such as cup, bowl etc., where there are no label or cap, a sticker 400 attachable to the single-use products 410 may serve as an identification mark 100, as shown in FIG.4. Optionally, an obvious identification mark 100 can be printed or engraved on the some single-use products.

It must be noted here that an identification mark is used to identify the single-use products within a certain range. Within this range, the obvious identification mark is unique in accordance with the present invention. The obvious identification mark 100 may be an Arabic numeral, a letter, a word, a symbol, a figure, etc. or their combinations. The different color also can be considered if possible. Some examples are shown in FIGS. 5-6. FIG.5 shows the combination of animal pattern 500 and Arabic numeral “7” 510. The 20 animal patterns with the number from 0 to 20 can provide 420 unique identification marks. Assuming 5 colors are available and selected, 2100 unique identification marks are generated, which should be enough for general situations. FIG. 6 shows the combination of geometric shape 600 and Arabic numeral “8” 610. In order to remember the obvious identification mark easily, people can select their favor when they take the single-use products.

Optionally, an obvious identification mark 100 can be printed or engraved on the some single-use products such as cup and plate. FIG.7 shows that an identification mark is printed on engraved on the internal surface of plate. FIG.8 and FIG.9 show that an identification mark is formed by engraving, which can be seen from both internal and external surfaces.

During a party or such events, a lot of single-use products are provided. An identification mark for each product should be unique in a box as shown in FIG. 10 and FIG.11. An identification mark for each product should be statistically unique within a predetermined range as shown in FIG. 12.

In another alternate embodiment of the present invention, the obvious identification mark generated by the above methods can be produced alone as a batch of sticker. The stickers is packed with the single-use products together as shown in FIG.13

It is worth to mention that one single-use product can be with more than one same obvious identification marks at the different locations on the main body surface in order to be identified quickly.

Although illustrated and described above with reference to certain specific examples, the present invention is nevertheless not intended to be limited to the details shown. Rather, various modifications may be made in the details within the scope and range of equivalents of the claims and without departing from the scope of the invention.

CLAIMS

1. A product for use by a consumer, the product comprising:

a body; and

at least one feature disposed on the body, the feature being configured as an identification mark.

2. The product of claim 1 in which the feature is configured in such way that the identification mark for each product is statistically unique within a predetermined range.

3. The product of claim 1 manufactured in a batch, in which the feature is configured in such way that the identification mark for each product is unique in the batch.

4. The product of claim 1, in which the feature is directly disposed on the body.

5. The product of claim 4, in which the body is one of an external surface of the product, an internal surface of the product, and a closure.

6. The product of claim 1, in which the feature is provided on a label disposed on the body.

7. The product of claim 1, in which the feature is one of an Arabic numeral, a letter, a word, a symbol, a figure, a color, and their combination.

8. The product of claim 1, in which the feature is formed by printing.

9. The product of claim 1, in which the feature is formed by engraving.