

Claims

1. An article for casting parts, comprising:
a single-use casting fixture which includes a casting section and a tear-away section, the casting section including a rim portion adapted to receive a base portion of an applicator tip assembly part, the casting section having an interior volume beneath the rim portion to receive flowable casting material suitable for contact with facial skin area of a user for application of skin formulations, wherein the silicone material fills the interior volume and when cured to solid form bonds to extending elements from the base portion, forming a firm engagement therewith, wherein the resulting combination of the casting fixture and the applicator tip assembly part can be stored until ready for use, and wherein the tear-away section permits convenient removal of the part from the casting fixture.
2. The article of claim 1, including two tear-away sections on opposing sides of the casting section.
3. The article of claim 1, wherein the casting section is in the form of a cup.
4. The article of claim 1, wherein the casting material is silicone.
5. The article of claim 2, wherein the tear-away sections include portions which extend outwardly from the casting section, permitting easy grasp thereof by a user.
6. The article of claim 3, wherein the casting fixture comprises a lubricious material to which the casting material will not adhere.
7. The article of claim 1, wherein the silicone bonds to an interior element of the base portion.

8. The article of claim 1, wherein a rim portion of the casting section includes a groove into which a peripheral edge of the base portion is snappable.

9. The article of claim 5, wherein the tear-away sections include ribs which extend around a portion of the peripheral edge of the tear-away sections and on an upper surface of the tear-away sections.

10. The article of claim 2, wherein the tear-away sections include thinner portions than adjacent portions of the casting section.

11. A method for casting a tip portion of a tip applicator assembly used in a skin formulation applicator, wherein the tip portion is mated with a base portion of the tip applicator during casting, the method comprising the steps of:

positioning the base portion of a tip applicator assembly in a casting fixture, the casting fixture including a cup section for receiving the base portion and at least one tear-away section, the casting fixture comprising a material which is readily separable from and will not adhere to the casting material comprising the tip portion of the part following casting thereof;

pouring the casting material into a volume in the cup section beneath the positioned base portion, the casting material engaging and bonding to an extending part of the base portion; and

allowing the casting material to cure, such that the base portion and the tip portion form a cohesive whole, wherein the casting fixture with the cast part therein can be stored until the tip applicator assembly is ready for use.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the casting material is silicone.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein the silicone material is Shore scale OO Durometer 30.
14. The method of claim 11, wherein the casting fixture includes two tear-away sections extending from opposing ends of the cup section.
15. The method of claim 11 wherein the casting fixture material is lubricious.
16. The method of claim 14, wherein the tear-away sections are thinner than adjacent portions of the cup section.
17. The method of claim 12, wherein the silicone material is characterized by a lack of a bonding with the cup section of the fixture during casting.

Claims

1. An article for casting parts, comprising:

a single-use casting fixture which includes a cup shaped casting section which includes a closed bottom portion, a side portion extending upwardly from the bottom portion, terminating in a rim portion, defining an open top area, the casting fixture further including at least one tear-away section on the casting section, wherein the tear-away section(s) having a portion which extends away from the casting section in the vicinity of the rim portion, and another portion which extends from the rim portion down the sides of the casting section, the rim portion adapted to receive a base portion of an applicator tip assembly pad, wherein the base portion includes engagement elements which extend away from the remainder of the base portion, the casting section having an interior volume beneath the rim portion adapted to receive flowable casting material, wherein the casting material is adapted to extend a distance into the interior of the base portion, and form an applicator tip portion of the applicator tip assembly part suitable for contact with facial skin areas of a user for application of skin formulations and when cured to solid, form bonds to the engagement elements extending from the base portion, forming a firm engagement therewith, wherein the resulting combination of the casting fixture and the applicator tip assembly part can be stored until ready for use, and wherein the tear-away section(s) are configured to permit convenient removal of the applicator tip assembly part from the casting fixture.

2. The article of claim 1, including two tear-away sections on opposing sides of the casting section.

3. The article of claim 1, wherein the casting section is in the form of a cup.

4. The article of claim 1, wherein the casting material is silicone.

5. The article of claim 2, wherein the tear-away sections include portions which extend outwardly from the casting section, permitting easy grasp thereof by a user.

6. The article of claim 3, wherein the casting fixture comprises a lubricious material to which the casting material will not adhere.

7. The article of claim 1, wherein the silicone bonds to an interior element of the base portion.

8. The article of claim 1, wherein a rim portion of the casting section includes a groove into which a peripheral edge of the base portion is snappable.

9. The article of claim 5, wherein the tear-away sections include ribs which extend around a portion of the peripheral edge of the tear-away sections and on an upper surface of the tear-away sections.

10. The article of claim 2, wherein the tear-away sections include thinner portions than adjacent portions of the casting section.

11. A method for casting a tip portion of an applicator assembly used in a skin formulation applicator, wherein the tip portion is mated with a base portion of the applicator during casting, the method comprising the steps of:

positioning the base portion of an applicator assembly in a casting fixture, wherein the casting fixture includes a cup portion which depends downwardly from the base portion, the cup section including a rim for connecting to the base portion, the casting fixture including at least one tear-away section, the casting fixture comprising a material which is readily separable from and will not adhere to the casting material comprising the tip portion of the part following casting thereof;

pouring the casting material, which comprises a material suitable for contact with facial skin of a user for application of skin formulations, through the base portion into the cup section beneath the positioned base portion, wherein the casting material engages and bonds to an extending part of the base portion; and

allowing the casting material to cure in the cup section, such that the base portion and the tip portion form a cohesive whole, wherein the casting fixture with the cast part therein can be stored until the applicator tip assembly is ready for use.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the casting material is silicone.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein the silicone material is Shore scale OO Durometer 30.

14. The method of claim 11, wherein the casting fixture includes two tear-away sections extending from opposing ends of the cup section.

15. The method of claim 11 wherein the casting fixture material is lubricious.

16. The method of claim 14, wherein the tear-away sections are thinner than adjacent portions of the cup section.

17. The method of claim 12, wherein the silicone material is characterized by a lack of a bonding with the cup section of the fixture during casting.