Claims

1. A process for producing a device having a molded, visible symbol therein, comprising the step of:

(a) obtaining a material in liquid state, a device forming composition and a mold for cast-molding a device from the device forming composition, wherein the mold has a molding surface and a first temperature, wherein the material has a second temperature, wherein the device forming composition has a third temperature, wherein the first temperature is below the melting point of the material, wherein the second temperature is higher than the melting point of the material, wherein the third temperature is equal to or below the first temperature, wherein the material has a melting point between 15° C. and 60° C., is soluble in or can be rinsed off by at least one of water, propanol or methyl ethyl ketone at or above its melting point, and is at least temporarily resistant to the device forming composition for cast-molding the device;

(b) applying the material in liquid state onto the molding surface of the mold in the form of a symbol before using the mold for cast molding the device, wherein as the material in liquid state is cooling toward to the first temperature, the material is solidified to form the symbol as a solid elevation on the molding surface of the mold;

(c) introducing the device forming composition into the mold with the symbol as the solid elevation on the molding surface, wherein the solid elevation remains solid· and

(d) polymerizing or crosslinking the device forming composition in the mold to form the device having the molded, visible symbol as an indentation which is a reproduction of the symbol as the solid elevation on the molding surface.

2. The process according to claim 1, wherein the molded device is a contact lens.

3. The process according to claim 2, wherein the molded, visible symbol is a pattern or alpha-numerical information, a picture, or a combination thereof.

4. The process of claim 3, wherein the molded, visible symbol is a number, a date, a lot number, an orientation mark, an inversion mark, or text without or with numbers.

5. The process of claim 4, wherein the second temperature is about 2° to about 50° C. higher than the first temperature.

6. The process of claim 5, wherein the material has a melting point of from about 18° C. to about 60° C.

7. The process of claim 5, wherein the first temperature and the third temperature is at a room temperature of 23±4° C.

8. The process of claim 7, wherein the material is selected from alcohols and alkanes.

9. The process of claim 8, wherein the material is selected from hexane-1,6-diol, 1-tetradecanol, nonadecane, tetracosane, and combinations thereof.

10. The process of claim 9, wherein the application of the material to the molding surface is conducted by spraying, by steaming, by inkjet, by Selective Laser Sintering (SLS) or by Selective Heat Sintering (SHS), or by a combination thereof.

11. The process of claim 4, wherein the material has a melting point of from about 18° C. to about 38° C.

12. The process of claim 5, wherein the material has a melting point of from about 18° C. to about 38° C.

13. The process of claim 7, wherein the material has a melting point of from about 18° C. to about 38° C.

14. The process of claim 8, wherein the material has a melting point of from about 18° C. to about 38° C.

15. The process of claim 9, wherein the material has a melting point of from about 18° C. to about 38° C.

16. The process of claim 10, wherein the material has a melting point of from about 18° C. to about 38° C.