CLAIMS

1. A process cartridge comprising:

a casing;

a rotary member having a longitudinal axis L1 and having a flange at one end of the rotary member that is coaxial with axis L1, the rotary member being rotatably supported in the casing to permit rotation about the axis L1; and

a coupling member having a longitudinal axis L2, the coupling member having (i) a rotational force transmitting portion engageable with the flange, (ii) a rotational force receiving portion, and (iii) a connecting portion that connects the rotational force receiving portion to the rotational force transmitting portion,

wherein the coupling member is movable between a first position in which the axis L2 of the coupling member is coaxial with the axis L1 of the rotary member, and a second position in which the axis L2 of the coupling member is inclined with respect to the axis L1 of the rotary member, and

wherein the maximum angle of inclination of the coupling member is limited by contact between the coupling member and the flange.

2. A process cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein the coupling member can be inclined in substantially any direction with respect to the axis L1.

3. A process cartridge according to Claim 2, wherein the rotational force transmitting portion of the coupling member is engageable with the flange via a bearing.

4. A process cartridge according to Claim 2, wherein the maximum angle of inclination of axis L2 with respect to axis L1 is at least 35 degrees.

5. A process cartridge according to Claim 2, wherein the force receiving portion has at least one pair of projections extending substantially in the same direction as axis L2 away from the connecting portion, each projection having a tip that is a surface of the projection farthest from the rotary member when the coupling member is in the first position, and wherein, when the coupling member is in the first position, the tip of each projection is the same distance from the rotary member.

6. A process cartridge according to Claim 2, wherein the force receiving portion of the coupling member has a recess, the recess being coaxial with axis L2 and having a semi-spherical shape with an opening facing away from the rotary member.

7. A process cartridge according to Claim 6, wherein, if the distance along the axis L2 between a portion of the recess closest to the rotary member and a plane that touches the tips of the projections is defined as distance D, when the coupling member moves from the first position to the second position the tip of one projection moves at least about the distance D closer to the rotary member, as measured in the direction of axis L1, than when the coupling member is in the first position.

8. A process cartridge according to Claim 7, wherein the coupling member is linearly movable toward the rotary member in the direction of axis L1, and wherein when the coupling member moves from the first position to the second position, the tip of the one projection moves the distance D through a combination of linear movement and inclining of the coupling member.

9. A process cartridge according to Claim 8, wherein the process cartridge further comprises a spring for biasing the coupling member away from the rotary member along the axis L1.

10. A process cartridge according to Claim 2, wherein the rotational force transmitting portion, the rotational force receiving portion, and the connecting portion are integrally formed.

11. A process cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein the rotational force transmitting portion, the rotational force receiving portion, and the connecting portion are separate parts connected together.

12. A process cartridge according to Claim 2, wherein the casing includes a projection that projects in the same direction as the axis L1 and is disposed in proximity to the coupling member, to regulate the direction of inclination of the coupling member.

13. A process cartridge according to Claim 2, wherein the rotary member is a photosensitive drum.

14. A process cartridge according to Claim 12, wherein the process cartridge further comprises a developing unit.

15. A process cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein the flange at least partially surrounds the coupling member.

16. A process cartridge comprising:

a casing;

a rotary member having a longitudinal axis L1 and having a shaft coaxial with axis L1, the rotary member being rotatably supported in the casing to permit rotation about the axis L1; and

a coupling member having a longitudinal axis L2, the coupling member having (i) a rotational force transmitting portion engageable with the shaft, (ii) a rotational force receiving portion, and (iii) a connecting portion that connects the rotational force receiving portion to the rotational force transmitting portion,

wherein the coupling member is movable between a first position in which the axis L2 of the coupling member is coaxial with the axis L1 of the rotary member, and a second position in which the axis L2 of the coupling member is inclined with respect to the axis L1 of the rotary member, and

wherein the maximum angle of inclination the coupling member is limited by contact between the coupling member and a portion of the process cartridge other than the shaft.

17. A process cartridge according to Claim 16, wherein the coupling member can be inclined in substantially any direction with respect to the axis L1.

18. A process cartridge according to Claim 17, wherein the rotational force transmitting portion of the coupling member is engageable with the shaft via a pin.

19. A process cartridge according to Claim 17, wherein the maximum angle of inclination of the axis L2 with respect to the axis L1 is at least 35 degrees.

20. A process cartridge according to Claim 17, wherein the rotational force transmitting portion, the rotational force receiving portion, and the connecting portion are integrally formed.

21. A process cartridge according to Claim 17, wherein the rotational force transmitting portion, the rotational force receiving portion, and the connecting portion are separate parts connected together.

22. A process cartridge according to Claim 17, wherein the rotary member is a photosensitive drum.

23. A process cartridge comprising:

a casing;

a rotary member having a longitudinal axis L1 and having a flange at one end of the rotary member that is coaxial with axis L1, the rotary member being rotatably supported in the casing to permit rotation about the axis L1; and

a coupling member having a longitudinal axis L2, the coupling member having (i) a rotational force transmitting portion engageable with the flange, (ii) a rotational force receiving portion, and (iii) a connecting portion that connects the rotational force receiving portion to the rotational force transmitting portion,

wherein the coupling member is movable between a first position in which the axis L2 of the coupling member is coaxial with the axis L1 of the rotary member, and a second position in which the axis L2 of the coupling member is not coaxial with the axis L1 of the rotary member, and

wherein the maximum movement of the coupling member is limited by contact between the coupling member and the flange.

24. A process cartridge according to Claim 23, wherein the coupling member can be inclined in substantially any direction with respect to the axis L1.

25. A process cartridge according to Claim 24, wherein the rotational force transmitting portion of the coupling member is engageable with the flange via a bearing.

26. A process cartridge according to Claim 24, wherein the maximum angle of inclination of axis L2 with respect to axis L1 is at least 35 degrees.

27. A process cartridge according to Claim 24, wherein the force receiving portion has at least one pair of projections extending substantially in the same direction as axis L2 away from the connecting portion, each

projection having a tip that is a surface of the projection farthest from the rotary member when the coupling member is in the first position, and wherein, when the coupling member is in the first position, the tip of each projection is the same distance from the rotary member.

28. A process cartridge according to Claim 24, wherein the force receiving portion of the coupling member has a recess, the recess being coaxial with axis L2 and having a semi-spherical shape with an opening facing away from the rotary member.

29. A process cartridge according to Claim 28, wherein, if the distance along the axis L2 between a portion of the recess closest to the rotary member and a plane that touches the tips of the projections is defined as distance D, when the coupling member moves from the first position to the second position the tip of one projection moves at least about the distance D closer to the rotary member, as measured in the direction of axis L1, than when the coupling member is in the first position.

30. A process cartridge according to Claim 29, wherein the coupling member is linearly movable toward the rotary member in the direction of axis L1, and wherein when the coupling member moves from the first position to the second position, the tip of the one projection moves the distance D through a combination of linear movement and inclining of the coupling member.

31. A process cartridge according to Claim 30, wherein the process cartridge further comprises a spring for biasing the coupling member away from the rotary member along the axis L1.

32. A process cartridge according to Claim 24, wherein the rotational force transmitting portion, the rotational force receiving portion, and the connecting portion are integrally formed.

33. A process cartridge according to Claim 24, wherein the rotational force transmitting portion, the rotational force receiving portion, and the connecting portion are separate parts connected together.

34. A process cartridge according to Claim 24, wherein the casing includes a projection that projects in the same direction as the axis L1 and is disposed in proximity to the coupling member, to regulate the direction of

inclination of the coupling member.

35. A process cartridge according to Claim 24, wherein the rotary member is a photosensitive drum.

36. A process cartridge according to Claim 35, wherein the process cartridge further comprises a developing unit.

37. A process cartridge according to Claim 24, wherein the flange at least partially surrounds the coupling member.

38. A process cartridge comprising:

a casing;

a rotary member having a longitudinal axis L1, the rotary member being rotatably supported in the casing to permit rotation about the axis L1; and

a coupling member having a longitudinal axis L2, the coupling member having (i) a rotational force transmitting portion engageable with the rotary member, (ii) a rotational force receiving portion, and (iii) a connecting portion that connects the rotational force receiving portion to the rotational force transmitting portion,

wherein the coupling member is movable between a first position in which the axis L2 of the coupling member is coaxial with the axis L1 of the rotary member, and a second position in which the axis L2 of the coupling member is inclined with respect to the axis L1 of the rotary member,

wherein the force receiving portion has at least one pair of projections extending substantially in the same direction as axis L2 away from the connecting portion, each projection having a tip defined by at least one slanted surface and being a part of the projection farthest from the rotary member when the coupling member is in the first position, and

wherein, when the coupling member is in the first position, the tip of each projection is the same distance from the rotary member.

39. A process cartridge according to Claim 38, wherein the force receiving portion of the coupling member has a recess, the recess being coaxial with the axis L2 and having a semi-spherical shape with an opening facing away from the rotary member.

40. A process cartridge according to Claim 38, wherein, if the distance

along the axis L2 between a portion of the recess closest to the rotary member and a plane that touches the tips of the projections is defined as distance D, when the coupling member moves from the first position to the second position the tip of one projection moves at least about the distance D closer to the rotary member, as measured in the direction of the axis L1, than when the coupling member is in the first position.

41. A process cartridge according to Claim 38, wherein the coupling member is linearly movable toward the rotary member in the direction of the axis L1, and wherein when the coupling member moves from the first position to the second position, the tip of the one projection moves the distance D through a combination of linear movement and inclining of the coupling member.

42. A process cartridge according to Claim 41, wherein the process cartridge further comprises a spring for biasing the coupling member away from the rotary member along the axis L1.

43. A process cartridge according to Claim 38, wherein the coupling member can be inclined in substantially any direction with respect to the axis L1.

44. A process cartridge according to Claim 38, wherein the coupling member is linearly movable toward the rotary member in the direction of the axis L1.

45. A process cartridge according to Claim 38, wherein the rotary member has a flange at one end that is coaxial with the axis L1, and wherein the coupling member is engageable with the rotary member via the flange.

46. A process cartridge according to Claim 38, wherein the rotational force transmitting portion, the rotational force receiving portion, and the connecting portion are integrally formed.

47. A process cartridge according to Claim 38, wherein the rotational force transmitting portion, the rotational force receiving portion, and the connecting portion are separate parts connected with each other.

48. A process cartridge according to Claim 38, wherein the rotary member is a photosensitive drum.

49. A process cartridge comprising:

a casing;

a rotary member having a longitudinal axis L1, the rotary member being rotatably supported in the casing to permit rotation about the axis L1; and

a coupling member having a longitudinal axis L2, the coupling member having (i) a rotational force transmitting portion engageable with the rotary member, (ii) a rotational force receiving portion, and (iii) a connecting portion that connects the rotational force receiving portion to the rotational force transmitting portion,

wherein the coupling member is movable between a first position in which the axis L2 of the coupling member is coaxial with the axis L1 of the rotary member, and a second position in which the axis L2 of the coupling member is inclined not coaxial with respect to the axis L1 of the rotary member, and

wherein the force receiving portion of the coupling member has a recess, the recess being coaxial with the axis L2, diverging away from the rotary member, and having a rotationally symmetric shape with an opening facing away from the rotary member.

50. A process cartridge according to Claim 49, wherein the recess has a conical shape.

51. A process cartridge according to Claim 49, wherein the recess has a semi-spherical shape.

52. A process cartridge according to Claim 49, wherein the force receiving portion has at least one pair of projections extending substantially in the same direction as the axis L2 away from the connecting portion, each projection having a tip that is a surface of the projection farthest from the rotary member when the coupling member is in the first position, and

wherein, when the coupling member is in the first position, the tip of each projection is the same distance from the rotary member.

53. A process cartridge according to Claim 49, wherein, if the distance along the axis L2 between a portion of the recess closest to the rotary member and a plane that touches the tips of the projections is defined as distance D, when the coupling member moves from the first position to the second position the tip of one projection moves at least about the distance D

closer to the rotary member, as measured in the direction of the axis L1, than when the coupling member is in the first position.

54. A process cartridge according to Claim 49, wherein the coupling member is linearly movable toward the rotary member in the direction of the axis L1, and wherein when the coupling member moves from the first position to the second position, the tip of the one projection moves the distance D through a combination of linear movement and inclining of the coupling member.

55. A process cartridge according to Claim 49, wherein the process cartridge further comprises a spring for biasing the coupling member away from the rotary member along the axis L1.

56. A process cartridge according to Claim 49, wherein the coupling member can be inclined in substantially any direction with respect to the axis L1.

57. A process cartridge according to Claim 49, wherein the coupling member is linearly movable toward the rotary member in the direction of axis L1.

58. A process cartridge according to Claim 49, wherein the rotary member has a flange at one end that is coaxial with axis L1, and wherein the coupling member is engageable with the rotary member via the flange.

59. A process cartridge according to Claim 49, wherein the rotational force transmitting portion, the rotational force receiving portion, and the connecting portion are integrally formed.

60. A process cartridge according to Claim 49, wherein the rotational force transmitting portion, the rotational force receiving portion, and the connecting portion are separate parts connected together.

61. A process cartridge according to Claim 49, wherein the rotary member is a photosensitive drum.

62. A process cartridge comprising:
a casing;
a rotary member having a longitudinal axis L1, the rotary member

being rotatably supported in the casing to permit rotation about the axis L1; and

a coupling member having a longitudinal axis L2, the coupling member having (i) a rotational force transmitting portion engageable with the rotary member, (ii) a rotational force receiving portion, and (iii) a connecting portion that connects the rotational force receiving portion to the rotational force transmitting portion,

wherein the coupling member is movable between a first position in which the axis L2 of the coupling member is coaxial with the axis L1 of the rotary member, and a second position in which the axis L2 of the coupling member is inclined with respect to the axis L1 of the rotary member,

wherein the force receiving portion comprises at least one pair of projections extending substantially in the same direction as the axis L2 away from the connecting portion, each projection having the same length L and having a tip that is a surface of the projection farthest from the rotary member when the coupling member is in the first position, and

wherein, when the coupling member moves from the first position to the second position, the tip of one projection moves at least about the distance L closer to the rotary member, as measured in the direction of the axis L1, than when the coupling member is in the first position.

63. A process cartridge according to Claim 62, wherein the force receiving portion of the coupling member has a recess, the recess being coaxial with the axis L2 and having a rotationally symmetric shape with an opening facing away from the rotary member.

64. A process cartridge according to Claim 62, wherein the coupling member is linearly movable toward the rotary member in the direction of the axis L1, and wherein when the coupling member moves from the first position to the second position, the tip of the one projection moves the distance L through a combination of linear movement and inclining of the coupling member.

65. A process cartridge according to Claim 64, wherein the process cartridge further comprises a spring for biasing the coupling member away from the rotary member along the axis L1.

66. A process cartridge according to Claim 62, wherein the coupling member can be inclined in substantially any direction with respect to the axis

L1.

67. A process cartridge according to Claim 62, wherein the rotary member has a flange at one end that is coaxial with axis L1, and wherein the coupling member is engageable with the rotary member via the flange.

68. A process cartridge according to Claim 62, wherein the rotational force transmitting portion, the rotational force receiving portion, and the connecting portion are integrally formed.

69. A process cartridge according to Claim 62, wherein the rotational force transmitting portion, the rotational force receiving portion, and the connecting portion are separate parts connected together.

70. A process cartridge according to Claim 62, wherein the rotary member is a photosensitive drum.

71. A process cartridge comprising:

a casing;

a rotary member having a longitudinal axis L1, the rotary member being rotatably supported in the casing to permit rotation about the axis L1; and

a coupling member having a longitudinal axis L2 and engageable with the rotary member, the coupling member comprising (i) a first portion that is relatively nearer to the rotary member, (ii) a second portion, at least part of the second portion having a diameter in a direction perpendicular to the axis L2 that is greater than a diameter of the first portion in the direction perpendicular to the axis L2, and (iii) a third portion comprising at least one pair of projections extending from the second portion in the same direction as the axis L2 and away from the rotary member,

wherein the coupling member is movable between a first position in which the axis L2 of the coupling member is coaxial with the axis L1 of the rotary member, and a second position in which the axis L2 of the coupling member is inclined with respect to the axis L1 of the rotary member.

72. A process cartridge according to Claim 71, wherein the rotary member has a flange at one end that is coaxial with the axis L1, wherein the coupling member is engageable with the rotary member via the flange, and wherein a maximum angle of inclination of the axis L2 when the coupling

member is inclined is limited by contact between the first portion of the coupling member and the flange.

73. A process cartridge according to Claim 71, wherein an outer surface of the second portion of the coupling member has a conical shape.

74. A process cartridge according to Claim 71, wherein the coupling member can be inclined in substantially any direction with respect to the axis L1.

75. A process cartridge according to Claim 74, wherein a maximum angle of inclination of the axis L2 with respect to the axis L1 is at least 35 degrees.

76. A process cartridge according to Claim 71, wherein the second portion of the coupling member has a recess, the recess being coaxial with the axis L2 and having a semi-spherical shape with an opening facing away from the rotary member.

77. A process cartridge according to Claim 71, wherein the first portion, the second portion, and the third portion of the coupling member are integrally formed.

78. A process cartridge according to Claim 71, wherein the rotational force transmitting portion, the rotational force receiving portion, and the connecting portion are separate parts connected together.

79. A process cartridge according to Claim 71, wherein the rotary member is a photosensitive drum.

80. An image forming apparatus comprising:

a process cartridge including

a casing;

a rotary member having a longitudinal axis L1 and having a flange at one end of the rotary member that is coaxial with axis L1, the rotary member being rotatably supported in the casing to permit rotation about the axis L1; and

a coupling member having a longitudinal axis L2, the coupling member having (i) a rotational force transmitting portion engageable with the flange, (ii) a rotational force receiving portion, and (iii) a connecting portion

that connects the rotational force receiving portion to the rotational force transmitting portion,

wherein the coupling member is movable between a first position in which the axis L2 of the coupling member is coaxial with the axis L1 of the rotary member, and a second position in which the axis L2 of the coupling member is inclined with respect to the axis L1 of the rotary member, and

wherein the maximum angle of inclination of the axis L2 when the coupling member is inclined is limited by contact between the coupling member and the flange;

a driving motor;

a driving shaft engageable with the rotational force receiving portion of the coupling member of the process cartridge and having a rotational axis L3; and

a guide portion configured to guide insertion of the process cartridge into the image forming apparatus along a direction that is substantially perpendicular to the rotational axis L3 of the driving shaft.

Claims:

1. A process cartridge comprising:
a casing;
a rotary member having a longitudinal axis L1, the rotary member being rotatably supported in the casing to permit rotation about the axis L1; and
a coupling member having a longitudinal axis L2, the coupling member having (i) a rotational force transmitting portion engageable with the rotary member, (ii) a rotational force receiving portion, and (iii) a connecting portion that connects the rotational force receiving portion to the rotational force transmitting portion,
wherein the coupling member is movable between a first position in which the axis L2 of the coupling member is coaxial with the axis L1 of the rotary member, and a second position in which the axis L2 of the coupling member is inclined with respect to the axis L1 of the rotary member,
wherein the rotational force receiving portion comprises (i) a surface on a side opposite the connecting portion, with the surface having an opening to a recess, and (ii) at least one pair of projections, with each projection having a tip that is the part of the projection that is farthest from the rotary member when the coupling member is in the first position,
wherein at least part of the projections is farther from the rotational force transmitting portion than the surface having the opening, and
wherein a surface of the rotational force receiving portion that defines the recess is slanted with respect to the axis L2.

2. The process cartridge according to claim 1, wherein the recess has one of a semi-spherical shape and a conical shape.

3. The process cartridge according to claim 1, wherein the rotary member is a photosensitive drum.

4. A process cartridge comprising:
a casing;
a rotary member having a longitudinal axis L1, the rotary member being rotatably supported in the casing to permit rotation about the axis L1; and
a coupling member having a longitudinal axis L2, the coupling member having (i) a rotational force transmitting

portion engageable with the rotary member, (ii) a rotational force receiving portion, and (iii) a connecting portion that connects the rotational force receiving portion to the rotational force transmitting portion,

wherein the coupling member is movable between a first position in which the axis L2 of the coupling member is coaxial with the axis L1 of the rotary member, and a second position in which the axis L2 of the coupling member is inclined with respect to the axis L1 of the rotary member,

wherein the rotational force receiving portion comprises at least one pair of projections, with each projection having a tip that is a surface of the projection farthest from the rotary member when the coupling member is in the first position,

wherein, in the first position, the projections are positioned on opposite sides of a plane containing the axis L1, with the plane being perpendicular to a line passing through both projections, and, in the second position, the projections are positioned on the same side of the plane.

5. The process cartridge according to claim 4, wherein the rotational force receiving portion of the coupling member has a recess, with the recess being coaxial with the axis L2 and having an opening facing away from the rotary member.

6. The process cartridge according to claim 4, wherein the recess has one of a semi-spherical shape and a conical shape.

7. The process cartridge according to claim 4, wherein the coupling member can be inclined in substantially any direction with respect to the axis L1.

8. The process cartridge according to claim 4, wherein the rotational force transmitting portion, the rotational force receiving portion, and the connecting portion are integrally formed.

9. The process cartridge according to claim 4, wherein the rotational force transmitting portion, the rotational force receiving portion, and the connecting portion are separate parts connected together.

10. The process cartridge according to claim 4, wherein the rotary member is a photosensitive drum.

11. The process cartridge according to claim **4**, wherein the rotary member has a flange at one end that is coaxial with the axis L**1**, and the coupling member is engageable with the rotary member via the flange.

12. The process cartridge according to claim **4**, wherein the rotational force receiving portion comprises a plurality of pairs of projections.

13. An image forming apparatus comprising:

a process cartridge including:

a casing;

a rotary member having a longitudinal axis L**1**, the rotary member being rotatably supported in the casing to permit rotation about the axis L**1**; and

a coupling member having a longitudinal axis L**2**, the coupling member having (i) a rotational force transmitting portion engageable with the rotary member, (ii) a rotational force receiving portion, and (iii) a connecting portion that connects the rotational force receiving portion to the rotational force transmitting portion,

wherein the coupling member is movable between a first position in which the axis L**2** of the coupling member is coaxial with the axis L**1** of the rotary member, and a second position in which the axis L**2** of the coupling member is inclined with respect to the axis LI of the rotary member,

wherein the rotational force receiving portion comprises (i) a surface on a side opposite the connecting portion, with the surface having an opening to a recess, and (ii) at least one pair of projections, with each projection having a tip that is the part of the projection that is farthest from the rotary member when the coupling member is in the first position,

wherein at least part of the projections is farther from the rotational force transmitting portion than the surface having the opening, and

wherein a surface of the rotational force receiving portion that defines the recess is slanted with respect to the axis L**2**;

a driving motor;

a driving shaft engageable with the rotational force receiving portion of the coupling member of the process cartridge and having a rotational axis L3;

a guide portion configured to guide insertion of the process cartridge into the image forming apparatus along a direction that is substantially perpendicular to the rotational axis L3 of the driving shaft; and

an urging member movable between an urging position and a retracted position retracted from the urging position,

wherein, when the process cartridge is mounted to the image forming apparatus, the coupling member is inclined toward the driving shaft by being urged by an elastic force of the urging member restoring to the urging position after being temporarily retracted to the retracted position by being contacted by the coupling member.

14. A process cartridge comprising:

a casing;

a rotary member having an axis L1, the rotary member being rotatably supported in the casing to permit rotation about the axis L1; and

a coupling member having an axis L2, the coupling member having (i) a first end portion connected to the rotary member, (ii) a second end portion, and (iii) a connecting portion connecting the first end portion and the second end portion,

wherein the coupling member is movable between a first position in which the axis L2 of the coupling member is coaxial with the axis L1 of the rotary member, and a second position in which the axis L2 of the coupling member is inclined with respect to the axis L1 of the rotary member, and

wherein, when the coupling member is in the second position, the axis L2 of the coupling member is inclined at least about 20 degrees with respect to the position of the axis L2 when the coupling member is in the first position.

15. The process cartridge according to claim **14**, wherein, when the coupling member is in the second position, the axis L2 of the coupling member is not greater than about 60 degrees with respect to the position of the axis L2 when the coupling member is in the first position.

16. The process cartridge according claim 15, wherein, when the coupling member is in the second position, an angle of inclination of the axis L2 with respect to the axis L1 is about 35 degrees.

17. The process cartridge according to claim 14, wherein a maximum distance from the axis L2 to an outermost surface of the connecting portion along a line perpendicular to the axis L2 is less than a maximum distance from the axis L2 to an outermost surface of the second end portion along a line perpendicular to the axis L2.

18. The process cartridge according to claim 17, wherein the connecting portion comprises a shaft along the axis L2.

19. The process cartridge according to claim 17, wherein the first end portion of the coupling member has a maximum outer dimension in a direction perpendicular to the axis L2 that is greater than the maximum outer dimension of the connecting portion of the coupling member.

20. The process cartridge according to claim 19, wherein the first end portion of the coupling member has a minimum outer dimension in a direction perpendicular to the axis L2 that is smaller than the maximum outer dimension of the connecting portion of the coupling member.

21. The process cartridge according to claim 14, wherein, for at least part of the second end portion, a maximum distance from the axis L2 to the outermost surface along a line perpendicular to the axis L2 increases as the distance along the axis L2 from the connecting portion increases.

22. The process cartridge according to claim 14, wherein the second end portion comprises a projection, and the second end portion comprises an opening to a recess, with the opening facing away from the connecting portion.

23. The process cartridge according to claim 14, wherein the coupling member is connected to the rotary member by a flange.

24. The process cartridge according to claim 23, wherein the coupling member is connected to the flange by a bearing.

25. The process cartridge according to claim 23, wherein the flange has a hollow portion, and at least part of the first end portion of the coupling member is in the hollow portion of the flange.

26. The process cartridge according to claim 25, the first end portion of the coupling member is supported by the hollow portion.

27. The process cartridge according to claim **14**, wherein the coupling member is connected to a shaft of the rotary member.

28. The process cartridge according to claim **14**, wherein the rotary member is a photosensitive drum.

29. The process cartridge according to claim **14**, wherein the casing comprises a guide portion capable of guiding the coupling member toward the second position.

30. The process cartridge according to claim **29**, wherein the guide portion projects substantially in the same direction as the axis L1 and is disposed proximate to the coupling member.

31. The process cartridge according to claim **14**, further comprising a contact portion capable of contacting the coupling member to position the coupling member at the second position.

32. The process cartridge according to claim **31**, wherein the casing provides the contact portion.

33. The process cartridge according to claim **14**, the projection includes a surface at least a portion of which overhangs a portion of the second end portion.