CLAIMS

1. A portable labeling machine having a platen opening mechanism and further comprising:

a side plate (31) having a bottom cover (23) disposed in a pivotally openable manner;

a retaining portion (32) retaining a strip form label wound into a roll at the side plate (31); and

a platen (18) enabling the label (3) drawn out as a strip form from the retaining portion (32) to be transferred onto a top surface thereof;

the label (3) being attachable to a member to be attached with,

the platen (18) being pivotable to a closed position and an open position relative to the side plate (31) to allow the label (3) to be loaded into the portable labeling machine (30), wherein

the platen (18) is put in an open state relative to the side plate (31) in accompaniment with an operation of opening the bottom cover (23) from the side plate (31), and

the bottom cover (23) is formed with a platen-opening engagement/disengagement portion (37) that is engageable with and disengageable from a flange portion (36) protrudingly formed on the platen (18).

2. The portable labeling machine (30) of claim 1,

further comprising:

a printing portion (7) including a print unit (17) printing the label (3) drawn out as a strip form from the retaining portion (32),

wherein the platen (18) confronts the print unit (17) for enabling the label (3) to be transferred onto the top surface thereof.

3. The portable labeling machine (30) of claim 1 or 2, wherein

the flange portion (36) has on its top surface portion a top-surface engagement/disengagement surface (36A), wherein

the platen-opening engagement/disengagement portion (37) has on its inward portion an undersurface engagement/disengagement surface (37A), and wherein

the undersurface engagement/disengagement surface (37A) comes into sliding contact with the top surface engagement/disengagement surface (36A) of the flange portion (36) in accompaniment with an operation of opening the bottom cover (23) from the side plate (31), and opening the platen (18).

4. The portable labeling machine (30) of claim 1 or 2, wherein

the flange portion (36) has a flange taper surface (36B) whose extremity is tapered wherein

the platen-opening engagement/disengagement portion (37) has an engagement/disengagement taper surface (37B) whose extremity is tapered, and wherein

the engagement/disengagement taper surface (37B) is engageable with and disengageable from the flange taper surface (36B) in accompaniment with an operation of opening the bottom cover (23) from the side plate (31).

5. The portable labeling machine (30) of claim 1 or 2, wherein

the platen-opening engagement/disengagement portion (37) disengages from the flange portion (36) in a state where the platen (18) is opened from the side plate (31).

6. The portable labeling machine (30) of claim 1 or 2, wherein

the open position of the platen (18) is adjustable by selecting a length of the flange portion (36) in the platen (18).

7. The portable labeling machine (30) of claim 1 or 2, wherein

the open position of the platen (18) is adjustable by selecting relative positions of the flange portion (36) and the platen-opening engagement/disengagement portion (37) of the bottom cover (23).

8. The portable labeling machine (30) of any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein

the platen (18) is openable and closable between a first stopper (38) and a second stopper (39) that are formed on the side plate (31).

9. The portable labeling machine of any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein

the platen (18) is pivotable along a guide groove (41) formed in the side plate (31).

10. The portable labeling machine (30) of any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein

the platen (18) is openable and closable among the closed position in the side plate (31), a first open position as a result of an operation of opening the bottom cover (23), and a second open position arrived at by an operation of further opening the platen (18) itself from the first open position.

11. The portable labeling machine (30) of any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein

the platen (18) and the bottom cover (23) are opened and closed in opposite directions to each other.

Claims:

1. A platen opening mechanism in a labeling machine, comprising:

the labeling machine including a side plate, a bottom cover disposed in a pivotally openable and closable manner relative to the side plate;

a retaining portion located and configured for retaining at the side plate a label strip wound into a roll

a platen located and configured for enabling the label strip drawn out in a strip form from the retaining portion to be transferred onto a top surface of the platen;

the platen being pivotable to a closed position, and pivotable to an open position relative to the side plate that is sufficient to allow the label strip to be loaded past the platen and into the portable labeling machine, wherein

the platen and the bottom cover are located and configured for the platen to be pivoted to the open position relative to the side plate and to be pivoted open in accompaniment with opening of the bottom cover from the side plate;

a flange protruding from the platen; and

the bottom cover having a platen-opening engagement/disengagement portion that is engageable with and disengageable from the flange portion.

2. The platen opening mechanism in a labeling machine of claim 1, further comprising:

the flange portion having a top surface portion having a top-surface engagement/disengagement surface,

the platen-opening engagement/disengagement portion of the bottom cover has an inward portion having an undersurface engagement/disengagement surface, wherein

the undersurface engagement/disengagement surface is located and configured to come into sliding contact with the top surface engagement/disengagement surface of the flange portion during opening of the bottom cover from the side plate, thereby also opening the platen.

3. The platen opening mechanism in a labeling machine of claim 1, wherein

the flange portion has a flange taper surface with a first extremity that is tapered and;

the platen-opening engagement/disengagement portion has an engagement/disengagement taper surface with a second extremity that is tapered, wherein

the engagement/disengagement taper surface and the flange taper surface are located and configured such that the engagement/disengagement taper surface is engageable with and then disengageable from the flange taper surface during opening of the bottom cover from the side plate.

4. The platen opening mechanism in a labeling machine of claim 1, wherein

the engagement/disengagement taper surface and the flange taper surface are located and configured such that the platen-opening engagement/disengagement portion disengages from the flange portion when the platen is opened from the side plate.

5. The platen opening mechanism in a labeling machine of claim 1, wherein

the open position of the platen is adjustable depending upon a length of the flange portion of the platen along the direction of relative motion of the platen and the bottom cover during the respective opening thereof.

6. The platen opening mechanism in a labeling machine of claim 1, wherein

the open position of the platen is adjustable depending upon relative positions of the flange portion and the platen-opening engagement/disengagement portion of the bottom cover.

7. A platen opening mechanism in a labeling machine, comprising:

the labeling machine including a side plate, a bottom cover disposed in a pivotally openable and closable manner relative to the side plate;

a retaining portion located and configured for retaining at the side plate a label strip wound into a roll

a platen located and configured for enabling the label strip drawn out in a strip form from the retaining portion to be transferred onto a top surface of the platen;

the platen being pivotable to a closed position, and pivotable to an open position relative to the side plate that is sufficient to allow the label strip to be loaded past the platen and into the portable labeling machine, wherein

the platen and the bottom cover are located and configured for the platen to be pivoted to the open position relative to the side plate and to be pivoted open in accompaniment with opening of the bottom cover from the side plate;

wherein the platen is openable and closable by being movable between a first and a second stopper on the side plate.

8. The platen opening mechanism in a labeling machine of claim 7, wherein

the platen is openable and closable with respect to the side plates among positions including the closed position with respect to the side plates, a first open position as a result of a first opening of the bottom cover, and a second open position arrived at as a result of further opening the platen from the first open position thereof.

9. The platen opening mechanism in a labeling machine of claim 7, wherein

the platen and the bottom cover are opened and closed in opposite directions to each other.

10. A platen opening mechanism in a labeling machine, comprising:

the labeling machine including a side plate, a bottom cover disposed in a pivotally openable and closable manner relative to the side plate;

a retaining portion located and configured for retaining at the side plate a label strip wound into a roll

a platen located and configured for enabling the label strip drawn out in a strip form from the retaining portion to be transferred onto a top surface of the platen;

the platen being pivotable to a closed position, and pivotable to an open position relative to the side plate that is sufficient to allow the label strip to be loaded past the platen and into the portable labeling machine, wherein

the platen and the bottom cover are located and configured for the platen to be pivoted to the open position relative to the side plate and to be pivoted open in accompaniment with opening of the bottom cover from the side plate;

a guide groove formed in the side plate engaged by the platen and along which the platen is pivotable.

11. The platen opening mechanism in a labeling machine of claim 10, wherein

the platen is openable and closable with respect to the side plates among positions including the closed position with respect to the side plates, a first open position as a result of a first opening of the bottom cover, and a second open position arrived at as a result of further opening the platen from the first open position thereof.

12. The platen opening mechanism in a labeling machine of claim 10, wherein

the platen and the bottom cover are opened and closed in opposite directions to each other.