WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An electrostatic image developing toner comprising:

a toner particle containing a coloring agent and a binder resin; and

an external additive on the toner particle,

wherein the external additive contains silica particles,

primary particles of the silica particles have an average particle diameter of from 70 nm to 400 nm, a particle size distribution index of the primary particles of from 1.0 to 1.9, and an average circularity of from 0.5 to 0.9.

2. The electrostatic image developing toner according to claim 1,

wherein the primary particles of the silica particles have an average circularity of from 0.5 to 0.8.

3. The electrostatic image developing toner according to claim 1,

wherein a shape factor SF1 of the toner particles is from 125 to 140.

4. The electrostatic image developing toner according to claim 1,

wherein a shape factor SF2 of the toner particles is from 105 to 130.

5. The electrostatic image developing toner according to claim 1,

wherein the primary particles of the silica particles have an average particle diameter of from 100 nm to 350 nm.

6. The electrostatic image developing toner according to claim 1,

wherein the silica particles have a specific gravity of from 1.0 to 1.9.

7. An electrostatic image developer comprising:

the electrostatic image developing toner according to claim 1; and

a carrier.

8. The electrostatic image developer according to claim 7,

wherein the primary particles of the silica particles have an average circularity of from 0.5 to 0.8.

9. The electrostatic image developer according to claim 7,

wherein a shape factor SF1 of the toner particles is from 125 to 140.

10. A toner cartridge accommodating the electrostatic image developing toner according to claim 1 therein.

11. The toner cartridge according to claim 10,

wherein the electrostatic image developing toner according to claim 1 is accommodated in 90 vol% or more relative to a volume of the toner cartridge.

12. A process cartridge, comprising a developing unit for developing an electrostatic latent image formed on the surface of a latent image holding member with the electrostatic image developer to form a toner image and the developing unit accommodating the electrostatic image developer according to claim 7 therein.

13. An image forming apparatus comprising:

an electrostatic latent image holding member;

a charging unit for charging the surface of the electrostatic latent image holding member;

an electrostatic latent image forming unit that forming an electrostatic latent image on the surface of the electrostatic latent image holding member;

a developing unit accommodating the electrostatic image developer according to claim 7 therein, which develops the electrostatic latent image formed on the surface of the electrostatic latent image holding member with the electrostatic image developer to form a toner image;

a transfer unit that transferring the toner image onto a recording medium; and

a fixing unit that fixing the toner image on the recording medium.

14. The image forming apparatus according to claim 13,

wherein the primary particles of the silica particles have an average circularity of from 0.5 to 0.8.

15. The image forming apparatus according to claim 13,

wherein a shape factor SF1 of the toner particles is from 125 to 140.

16. An image forming method comprising:

charging the surface of an electrostatic latent image holding member;

forming an electrostatic latent image on the surface of the charged electrostatic latent image holding member;

developing the electrostatic latent image formed on the surface of the electrostatic latent image holding member with the electrostatic image developer according to claim 7 to form a toner image;

transferring the toner image onto a recording medium; and

fixing the toner image on the recording medium.

17. The image forming method according to claim 16,

wherein the primary particles of the silica particles have an average circularity of from 0.5 to 0.8.

18. The image forming method according to claim 16,

wherein a shape factor SF1 of the toner particles is from 125 to 140.

What is claimed is:

1. An electrostatic image developing toner comprising:
a toner particle containing a coloring agent and a binder resin; and
an external additive on the toner particle,
wherein the external additive contains silica particles, primary particles of the silica particles have an average particle diameter of from 100 nm to 350 nm, a specific gravity of from 1.0 to 1.9, and an average circularity of from 0.5 to 0.9, and a shape factor SF2 of the toner particle is from 105 to 130.

2. The electrostatic image developing toner according to claim 1, wherein the primary particles of the silica particles have an average circularity of from 0.5 to 0.8.

3. The electrostatic image developing toner according to claim 1, wherein a shape factor SF1 of the toner particle is from 125 to 140.

4. The electrostatic image developing toner according to claim 1, wherein the silica particles have a specific gravity of from 1.1 to 1.8.

5. An electrostatic image developer comprising:
the electrostatic image developing toner according to claim 1; and a carrier.

6. The electrostatic image developer according to claim 5, wherein the primary particles of the silica particles have an average circularity of from 0.5 to 0.8.

7. The electrostatic image developer according to claim 5, wherein a shape factor SF1 of the toner particle is from 125 to 140.

8. A toner cartridge comprising the electrostatic image developing toner according to claim 1 therein, wherein the toner cartridge is detachably mounted against an image forming apparatus.

9. A process cartridge, comprising a developing unit for developing an electrostatic latent image formed on the surface of a latent image holding member with the electrostatic image developer to form a toner image, the developing unit comprising the electrostatic image developer according to claim 5 therein.

10. An image forming apparatus comprising:

an electrostatic latent image holding member;

a charging unit for charging the surface of the electrostatic latent image holding member;

an electrostatic latent image forming unit that forms an electrostatic latent image on the surface of the electrostatic latent image holding member;

a developing unit comprising the electrostatic image developer according to claim 5, which develops the electrostatic latent image formed on the surface of the electrostatic latent image holding member with the electrostatic image developer to form a toner image;

a transfer unit that transfers the toner image onto a recording medium; and

a fixing unit that fixes the toner image on the recording medium.

11. The image forming apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the primary particles of the silica particles have an average circularity of from 0.5 to 0.8.

12. The image forming apparatus according to claim 10, wherein a shape factor SF1 of the toner particle is from 125 to 140.

13. An image forming method comprising:

charging the surface of an electrostatic latent image holding member;

forming an electrostatic latent image on the surface of the charged electrostatic latent image holding member;

developing the electrostatic latent image formed on the surface of the electrostatic latent image holding member with the electrostatic image developer according to claim 5 to form a toner image;

transferring the toner image onto a recording medium; and fixing the toner image on the recording medium.

14. The image forming method according to claim 13, wherein the primary particles of the silica particles have an average circularity of from 0.5 to 0.8.

15. The image forming method according to claim 13, wherein a shape factor SF1 of the toner particle is from 125 to 140.