

CLAIMS:

1. A process cartridge for an electrophotographic image forming apparatus, wherein a main assembly of said apparatus includes first and second main assembly engaging portions, wherein the first main assembly engaging portion having a recess, wherein the second main assembly engaging portion having a driving shaft, and a rotational force applying portion provided on the driving shaft, wherein said process cartridge is dismountable from the main assembly in a dismounting direction substantially perpendicular to axial directions of the driving shaft, said process cartridge comprising:

- i) an electrophotographic photosensitive drum, rotatable about a drum axis thereof, for bearing a latent image, and
- ii) a first coupling member rotatable about the first coupling axis by a first rotational force received from the first main assembly engaging portion, for receiving the first rotational force to be transmitted to said electrophotographic photosensitive drum from the first main assembly engaging portion, wherein said first coupling member is in a form of a projection engageable with the recess of the first main assembly engaging portion; and
- iii) a developing roller, rotatable about a roller axis thereof, for developing the latent image formed on said electrophotographic photosensitive drum, and
- iv) a second coupling member rotatable about a second coupling axis by a rotational force received from the second main assembly engaging portion, said second coupling member including a rotational force receiving portion engageable with the rotational force applying portion to receive a second rotational force to be transmitted to said developing roller from the second main assembly engaging portion, and a rotational force transmitting portion for transmitting the second rotational force to said developing roller from said rotational force receiving portion,

wherein said second coupling member is capable of pivoting movement such that a rotational force receiving portion side of said second coupling axis is positioned upstream of a rotational force transmitting portion side of said second coupling axis with respect to the dismounting direction, and said second coupling member is disengageable from the second main assembly engaging portion by the pivoting movement.

2. A process cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein the main assembly further includes an opening and a door to open the opening through which said process cartridge is dismounted from the main assembly, wherein the first main assembly engaging portion is retractable from

the first coupling member in response to opening operation of the door, wherein said first coupling member is disengageable from the first main assembly engaging portion by the retracting of the first main assembly engaging portion.

3. A process cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein an upstream part of said second coupling member with respect to the dismounting direction circumvents the second main assembly engaging portion by inclining of toward a direction opposite to the dismounting direction.

4. A process cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein the dismounting of said process cartridge causes the inclining of said second coupling member toward a direction opposite to the dismounting direction.

5. A process cartridge according to Claim 1, further comprising a rotational force receiving member for receiving the second rotational force from said second coupling member, wherein said second coupling member is pivotably coupled with said rotational force receiving member.

6. A process cartridge according to Claim 5, wherein a rotational axis of said rotational force receiving member is substantially coaxial with said roller axis.

7. A process cartridge according to Claim 6, wherein said rotational force receiving member is provided on a longitudinal end of said developing roller.

8. A process cartridge according to Claim 5, wherein a rotational axis of said rotational force receiving member is offset from and substantially parallel with said roller axis.

9. A process cartridge according to Claim 8, further comprising an another rotational force receiving member that is provided on a longitudinal end of said developing roller, wherein the rotational force is transmitted from said rotational force receiving member to said developing roller through said another rotational force receiving member.

10. A process cartridge according to Claim 9, wherein said rotational force receiving member meshes with said another rotational force receiving member.

11. A process cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein said second coupling member has a

recess, wherein said recess of said second coupling member is urged by a free end of the second main assembly engaging portion when said second coupling member receives said second rotational force from the second main assembly engaging portion.

12. A process cartridge according Claim 11, wherein said recess of said second coupling member is provided with an expanding portion which expands away from said second coupling axis as the distance from said developing roller along said second coupling axis increases, wherein said expanding portion is urged to the free end of the driving shaft.

13. A process cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein said second coupling member inclines toward a direction opposite to the dismounting direction by receiving a force from the second main assembly engaging portion as said process cartridge is dismounted from the main assembly of the apparatus.

14. A process cartridge according to Claim 1, further comprising an urging member for urging said second coupling member toward a direction opposite to the dismounting direction.

15. A process cartridge according to Claim 14, wherein said urging member include an elastic member.

16. A process cartridge according to Claim 15, wherein said elastic member includes a spring.

17. A process cartridge according to Claim 1, further comprising a casing that includes a projection being disposed in proximity to said second coupling member.

18. A process cartridge according to Claim 17, wherein said projection has a positioning force receiving portion to receive a force from the main assembly to position said process cartridge with respect to the main assembly.

19. A process cartridge according to Claim 17 or 18, wherein said projection has a guide portion being capable of guiding said second coupling member toward a direction opposite to the dismounting direction.

20. A process cartridge according to any one of Claims 1 - 18, wherein said second coupling

member is inclineable relative to said roller axis such that an angle between said second coupling axis and said roller axis is 20 - 60°.

21. A process cartridge according to any one of Claims 1 - 18, wherein said second coupling member is offset from said first coupling member with respect to a direction perpendicular to the dismounting direction.

22. A process cartridge according to any one of Claims 1 - 18, wherein said second coupling member is positioned downstream of said first coupling member with respect to the dismounting direction.

23. A process cartridge according to Claim 19, wherein said second coupling member is inclineable relative to said roller axis such that an angle between said second coupling axis and said roller axis is 20 - 60°.

24. A process cartridge according to Claim 19, wherein said second coupling member is offset from said first coupling member with respect to a direction perpendicular to the dismounting direction.

25. A process cartridge according to Claim 20, wherein said second coupling member is offset from said first coupling member with respect to a direction perpendicular to the dismounting direction.

26. A process cartridge according to Claim 23, wherein said second coupling member is offset from said first coupling member with respect to a direction perpendicular to the dismounting direction.

27. A process cartridge according to Claim 19, wherein said second coupling member is positioned downstream of said first coupling member with respect to the dismounting direction.

28. A process cartridge according to Claim 20, wherein said second coupling member is positioned downstream of said first coupling member with respect to the dismounting direction.

29. A process cartridge according to Claim 21, wherein said second coupling member is

positioned downstream of said first coupling member with respect to the dismounting direction.

30. A process cartridge according to Claim 23, wherein said second coupling member is positioned downstream of said first coupling member with respect to the dismounting direction.

31. A process cartridge according to Claim 24, wherein said second coupling member is positioned downstream of said first coupling member with respect to the dismounting direction.

32. A process cartridge according to Claim 25, wherein said second coupling member is positioned downstream of said first coupling member with respect to the dismounting direction.

33. A process cartridge according to Claim 26, wherein said second coupling member is positioned downstream of said first coupling member with respect to the dismounting direction.