CLAIMS

1. An electrophotographic photosensitive drum unit usable in a process cartridge, the drum unit comprising:

(a) a cylinder having a photosensitive layer at an outer periphery thereof and an axis L**1**;

(b) a drum flange provided at one end of the cylinder, the drum flange including a recess formed on an inside thereof and a gear portion provided along an outer surface of the drum flange; and

(c) a detachable retaining member provided entirely within the drum flange.

2. An electrophotographic photosensitive drum unit according to claim 1, further comprising a coupling member engaged with the drum flange and the retaining member so that an axis L**2** of the coupling member is inclinable with respect to the axis L**1** of the cylinder.

3. An electrophotographic photosensitive drum unit according to claim 2, wherein the retaining member partially surrounds the axis L**2** of the coupling member.

4. An electrophotographic photosensitive drum unit according to claim 2, wherein a portion of the coupling member is retained in the recess by the retaining member.

5. An electrophotographic photosensitive drum unit according to claim 1, wherein the retaining member overlaps parts of the recess as seen along the direction of the axis L**1**.

6. An electrophotographic photosensitive drum unit usable in a process cartridge, the drum unit comprising:

(a) a cylinder having a photosensitive layer at an outer periphery thereof and an axis L**1**;

(b) a drum flange provided at one end of the cylinder, the drum flange including an inner surface; and

(c) a detachable retaining member contacting the inner surface of the drum flange, wherein the detachable retaining member is C-shaped as seen in a direction of the axis L**1**.

7. An electrophotographic photosensitive drum unit according to claim 6, further comprising a coupling member engaged with the drum flange and the retaining member so that an axis of the coupling member is inclinable with respect to the axis L**1** of the cylinder.

8. An electrophotographic photosensitive drum unit according to claim 7, wherein the retaining member is C-shaped, with one arm of the C being provided adjacent to a first side of the coupling member and a second arm of the C being provided adjacent to a second side of the coupling member that is opposite to the first side of the coupling member.

9. An electrophotographic photosensitive drum unit according to claim 6, further comprising a gear portion provided along an outer surface of the drum flange.

10. An electrophotographic photosensitive drum unit usable in a process cartridge, the drum unit comprising:

(a) a cylinder having a photosensitive layer at an outer periphery thereof and an axis L**1**;

(b) a drum flange provided at one end of the cylinder;

(c) a retaining member provided inside of the drum flange; and

(d) a coupling member engaged with the drum flange and the retaining member so that an axis L**2** of the coupling member is inclinable with respect to the axis L**1** of the cylinder.

11. An electrophotographic photosensitive drum unit according to claim 10, wherein portions of the retaining member are provided adjacent to opposite sides of the coupling member.

12. An electrophotographic photosensitive drum unit according to claim 10, wherein the retaining member defines an opening and the coupling member extends through the opening.

13. An electrophotographic photosensitive drum unit according to claim 10, wherein the coupling member includes a first end portion engaged with the drum flange, a second end portion, and a connecting portion connecting the first end portion and the second end portion.

14. An electrophotographic photosensitive drum unit according to claim 10, wherein the retaining member partially surrounds the coupling member.

15. An electrophotographic photosensitive drum unit according to claim 10, wherein the retaining member extends in the direction of the axis L**1**between a first end of the coupling member and a second end of the coupling member.

16. An electrophotographic photosensitive drum unit according to claim 10, further comprising a gear portion provided along an outer surface of the drum flange.

17. An electrophotographic photosensitive drum unit usable in a process cartridge, the drum unit comprising:

(a) a cylinder having a photosensitive layer at an outer periphery thereof and an axis L**1**;

(b) a drum flange provided at one end of the cylinder;

(c) a coupling member engaged with the drum flange and so that an axis of the coupling member is inclinable with respect to the axis L**1** of the cylinder; and

(d) means for retaining a portion of the coupling member within the drum flange.

18. An electrophotographic photosensitive drum unit according to claim 17, wherein the means for retaining a portion of the coupling member prevents the coupling member from moving away from the end of the cylinder in the direction of the axis L**1**.

19. An electrophotographic photosensitive drum unit usable in a process cartridge, the drum unit comprising:

(a) a cylinder having a photosensitive layer at an outer periphery thereof and an axis L**1**;

(b) a drum flange provided at one end of the cylinder, the drum flange including a recess formed on an inside thereof and penetrated by the axis L**1**, and a gear portion provided along an outer surface of the drum flange; and

(c) a detachable retaining member provided entirely within the drum flange,

wherein the retaining member overlaps parts of the recess as seen along the direction of the axis L**1**.

20. An electrophotographic photosensitive drum unit according to claim 19, further comprising a coupling member engaged with the drum flange and the retaining member so that an axis L**2** of the coupling member is inclinable with respect to the axis L**1** of the cylinder.

21. An electrophotographic photosensitive drum unit according to claim 20, wherein the retaining member partially surrounds the axis L**2** of the coupling member.

22. An electrophotographic photosensitive drum unit according to claim 20, wherein a portion of the coupling member is retained in the recess by the retaining member.