Claims

1. An embossing tool comprising:

a drive mechanism for advancing a tape;

an embossing mechanism; and

a cutting mechanism for cutting the tape and for forming a mounting feature in the tape;

wherein the cutting mechanism includes a pair of dies with openings therethrough and at least one punch moveable within the openings for engaging the tape.

2. The embossing tool of claim 1, wherein the pair of dies includes an upper die plate and a lower die plate with an opening between the upper die plate and the lower die plate for receiving the tape.

3. The embossing tool of claim 2, wherein the lower die plate includes a raised section for forming a raised section in the tape.

4. The embossing tool of claim 2, wherein the at least one punch is positioned within the upper die plate above the tape.

5. The embossing tool of claim 1, wherein the at least one punch further comprising a cut off punch for cutting the tape and a mounting feature punch for forming a mounting feature in the tape, whereby the cut off punch and the mounting feature punch simultaneously engage the tape.

6. The embossing tool of claim 5, wherein the cut off punch forms semi-circular ends.

7. The embossing tool of claim 5, wherein the mounting feature punch forms a mounting feature on a trailing end of a first formed tag and a mounting feature on a leading end of a second formed tag, whereby the mounting feature includes two holes with a raised section therebetween for receiving a cable tie.

8. The embossing tool of claim 1, wherein the cutting mechanism further comprising a wire handle for activating the cutting mechanism, the wire handle is secured to handle brackets positioned on opposite sides of the pair of dies.

9. The embossing tool of claim 8, wherein the cutting mechanism further comprising a holder member and a punch retainer plate positioned between the handle brackets above the pair of dies, wherein the punch retainer plate receives the wire handle.

10. The embossing tool of claim 9, wherein the punch retainer plate includes openings therethrough for receiving the at least one punch and wherein the holder member is positioned on the punch retainer plate to engage the at least one punch before the cutting mechanism is activated.

11. The embossing tool of claim 10, wherein the wire handle forces the holder member, the punch retainer plate and the at least one punch downwards, wherein the at least one punch is pushed through the tape and into the lower die plate to cut the tape.

12. The embossing tool of claim 1, wherein the drive mechanism includes a drive wheel and an idler wheel for receiving the tape therebetween.

13. The embossing tool of claim 12, wherein the drive mechanism includes a pivot arm, one end of the pivot arm is mounted to the idler wheel and the opposite end of the pivot arm engages a spring, whereby the pivot arm enables the idler wheel to maintain contact with the drive wheel.

14. The embossing tool of claim 1, wherein the embossing mechanism includes a bottom wheel with raised characters and a top wheel with recessed characters with an opening therebetween for receiving the tape, wherein an embossing pin flexes the bottom wheel to press the raised characters into the recessed characters in the top wheel and the tape positioned therebetween.

The invention claimed is:

1. An embossing tool comprising:

a drive mechanism for advancing a tape;

an embossing mechanism; and

a cutting mechanism for cutting the tape and for forming a mounting feature in the tape;

wherein the cutting mechanism includes a pair of dies with openings therethrough and at least one punch moveable within the openings for engaging the tape, wherein the pair of dies includes an upper die plate and a lower die plate with an opening between the upper die plate and the lower die plate for receiving the tape, and wherein the lower die plate includes a raised section for forming a raised section in the tape.

2. The embossing tool of claim 1, wherein the at least one punch is positioned within the upper die plate above the tape.

3. The embossing tool of claim 1, wherein the at least one punch further comprising a cut off punch for cutting the tape and a mounting feature punch for forming a mounting feature in the tape, whereby the cut off punch and the mounting feature punch simultaneously engage the tape.

4. The embossing tool of claim 3, wherein the cut off punch forms semi-circular ends.

5. The embossing tool of claim 3, wherein the mounting feature punch forms a mounting feature on a trailing end of a first formed tag and a mounting feature on a leading end of a second formed tag, whereby the mounting feature includes two holes with the raised section therebetween for receiving a cable tie.

6. The embossing tool of claim 1, wherein the cutting mechanism further comprising a wire handle for activating the cutting mechanism, the wire handle is secured to handle brackets positioned on opposite sides of the pair of dies.

7. The embossing tool of claim 6, wherein the cutting mechanism further comprising a holder member and a punch retainer plate positioned between the handle brackets above the pair of dies, wherein the punch retainer plate receives the wire handle.

8. The embossing tool of claim 7, wherein the punch retainer plate includes openings therethrough for receiving the at least one punch and wherein the holder member is positioned on the punch retainer plate to engage the at least one punch before the cutting mechanism is activated.

9. The embossing tool of claim 8, wherein the wire handle forces the holder member, the punch retainer plate and the at least one punch downwards, wherein the at least one punch is pushed through the tape and into the lower die plate to cut the tape.

10. The embossing tool of claim 1, wherein the drive mechanism includes a drive wheel and an idler wheel for receiving the tape therebetween.

11. The embossing tool of claim 10, wherein the drive mechanism includes a pivot arm, one end of the pivot arm is mounted to the idler wheel and the opposite end of the pivot arm engages a spring, whereby the pivot arm enables the idler wheel to maintain contact with the drive wheel.

12. The embossing tool of claim 1, wherein the embossing mechanism includes a bottom wheel with raised characters and a top wheel with recessed characters with an opening therebetween for receiving the tape, wherein an embossing pin flexes the bottom wheel to press the raised characters into the recessed characters in the top wheel and the tape positioned therebetween.