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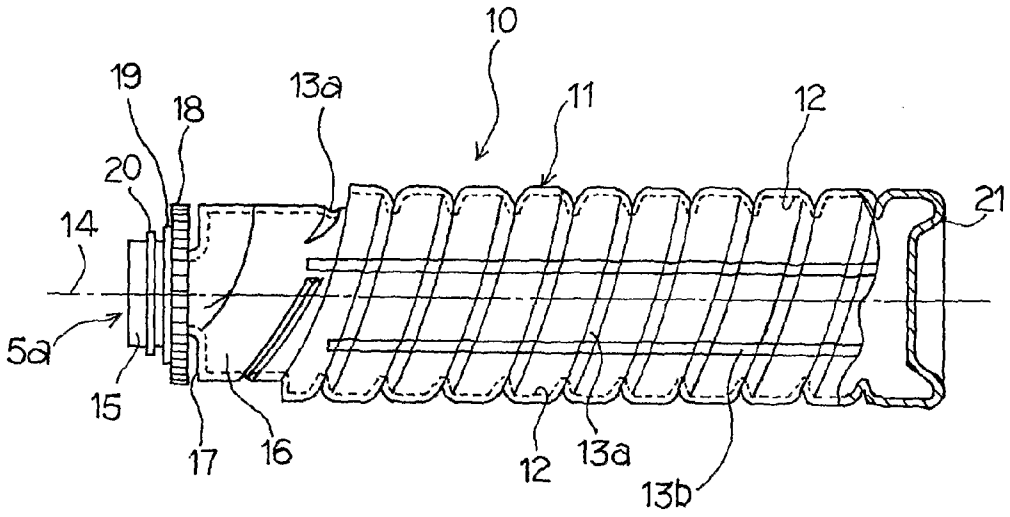
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(54) Title: TONER BOTTLE, PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE SAME, TONER CONTAINER, AND TONER CARTRIDGE, AND, IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS AND IMAGE FORMING PROCESS



(57) Abstract: The present invention provides a toner bottle having a ring gear whose teeth are not damaged when the toner bottle is handled. The toner bottle (10) comprises a cylindrical bottle (11) with a bottom (12), a cylindrical aperture (15) for supplying toner and a ring gear (18) disposed around the aperture. Since the tip circle diameter of the ring gear is smaller than that of the cylindrical bottle, the teeth of the ring gear do not project beyond the outer surface of the cylindrical bottle. Therefore the teeth of the ring gear do not get damaged easily. A helical concave is formed on the side wall of the cylindrical bottle. When the ring gear is driven to rotate the toner bottle, the toner inside is conveyed by the helical concave and is supplied to an image forming apparatus through the aperture.

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