

ABSTRACT

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FORMING A BASE ON A TUBULAR CONTAINER

An apparatus (1) for forming a base (2) on a tubular container (3). The apparatus comprises a die (5), and a punch plate (7) having an aperture (8) defining an open end of the die (5). A punch (10) is co-operable with the punch plate (7) and the die (5). Transport means are provided to feed a strip (22) of hot thermoplastic material between the punch (10) and the punch plate (7). Locating means (12) locate the container (3) such that one end extends marginally into the die (5). The punch (10) is selectively operable in a single stroke to shear off a slug of the material by forcing the strip (22) against the plate (7) and to punch (10) the slug through the aperture (8) into forming engagement with the die (5). A peripheral edge of the slug is thereby thermoplastically bonded to the exposed end of the container (3) within the die (5) to form the base (2).

