CLAIMS

1. A developer accommodating container for accommodating a developer, said developer accommodating container comprising:

a flexible container including an injection port for permitting entrance of the developer and a plurality of openings for permitting discharge of the developer; and

a sealing member, mounted on said flexible container in a state in which said sealing member seals the plurality of openings, capable of exposing the plurality of openings by being moved,

wherein the plurality of openings are provided at different positions with respect to a perpendicular direction to an unsealing direction in which exposure of the plurality of openings advances.

2. A developer accommodating container according to Claim 1, wherein a length of the plurality of openings from an end to another end with respect to the unsealing direction is shorter than a length of the plurality of openings from an end to another end with respect to the perpendicular direction to the unsealing direction.

3. A developer accommodating container according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein said sealing member has a free end portion in an end side with respect to the unsealing direction, and a portion-to-be-engaged to be engaged with an unsealing member for moving the sealing member is provided at the free end portion.

4. A developer accommodating container in which a developer used for image formation is accommodated, said developer accommodating container comprising:

a flexible container including a plurality of openings for permitting discharge of the accommodated developer; and

a sealing member, mounted on said flexible container in a state in which said sealing member seals the plurality of openings, capable of exposing the plurality of openings by being moved,

wherein the plurality of openings are provided at different positions with respect to a perpendicular direction to an unsealing direction in which exposure of the plurality of openings advances.

5. A developer accommodating container according to Claim 4, wherein a length of the plurality of openings from an end to another end with respect to the unsealing direction is shorter than a length of the plurality of openings from an end to another end with respect to the perpendicular direction to the unsealing direction.

6. A developer accommodating container according to Claim 4 or 5, wherein said sealing member has a free end portion in an end side with respect to the unsealing direction, and a portion-to-be-engaged to be engaged with an unsealing member for moving the sealing member is provided at the free end portion.

7. A developer accommodating container according to Claim 3 or 6, comprising the unsealing member for moving said sealing member,

wherein the unsealing member includes an engaging portion engaging with the portion-to-be-engaged of said sealing member.

8. A developer accommodating container for accommodating a developer, said developer accommodating container comprising:

a flexible container including an injection port for permitting entrance of the developer and a plurality of openings for permitting discharge of the developer; and

a sealing member, mounted on said flexible container in a state in which said sealing member seals the plurality of openings, capable of exposing the plurality of openings by being moved,

wherein said developer accommodating container comprises a portion-to-be-engaged to be engaged with an unsealing member for moving said sealing member is provided in an end side of said sealing member with respect to a substantially perpendicular direction to a direction in which the plurality of openings are arranged.

9. A developer accommodating container according to Claim 1,

wherein said developer accommodating container is a bag.

10. A developer accommodating container according to Claim 1, wherein said developer accommodating container is constituted by a sheet.

11. A developer accommodating container according to Claim 10, wherein a thickness of the sheet is 0.03 mm to 0.15 mm..

12. A developer accommodating container according to Claim 1, wherein said developer accommodating container incudes a portion having air-permeability.

13. A developer accommodating container according to Claim 1, wherein said developer accommodating container incudes any of polyethylene terephthalate (PET), polyethylene (PE) and polypropylene (PP).

14. A developer accommodating unit comprising:
a developer accommodating container comprising flexible container including an injection port for permitting entrance of the developer and a plurality of openings for permitting discharge of an accommodated developer, and comprising a sealing member, mounted on the flexible container in a state in which the sealing member seals the plurality of openings, capable of exposing the plurality of openings by being moved;
an unsealing member for moving the sealing member; and
a frame for accommodating said developer accommodating container and said unsealing member,
wherein the plurality of openings are provided at different positions with respect to a perpendicular direction to an unsealing direction in which exposure of the plurality of openings advances.

15. A developer accommodating unit according to Claim 14, wherein a length of the plurality of openings from an end to another end with respect to the unsealing direction is shorter than a length of the plurality of openings from an end to another end with respect to the perpendicular direction to the unsealing direction.

16. A developer accommodating unit according to claim 14 or 15, wherein said unsealing member is provided rotatably in said frame, and moves the sealing member by rotation.

17. A developer accommodating unit according to Claim 16, wherein said unsealing member winds the sealing member therearound by the rotation to peel the sealing member from the flexible container, thereby to expose the openings.

18. A developer accommodating unit in which a developer used for image formation is accommodated, said developer accommodating unit comprising:

a developer accommodating container comprising flexible container including an injection port for permitting entrance of the developer and a plurality of openings for permitting discharge of an accommodated developer, and comprising a sealing member, mounted on the flexible container in a state in which the sealing member seals the plurality of openings, capable of exposing the plurality of openings by being moved;

an unsealing member for exposing the openings by rotating the sealing member to peel the sealing member from the flexible container; and

a frame for accommodating said developer accommodating container and said unsealing member,

wherein the plurality of openings are provided at different positions with respect to a perpendicular direction, of a rotational axis of said unsealing member, in which exposure of the plurality of openings advances.

19. A developer accommodating unit according to Claim 18, wherein a length of the plurality of openings from an end to another end with respect to the direction of the rotational axis is shorter than a length of the plurality of openings from an end to another end with respect to the perpendicular direction to the direction of the rotational axis.

20. A developer accommodating unit comprising:

a developer accommodating container in which a developer used for image formation is accommodated, said developer accommodating container comprising flexible container including an injection port for permitting entrance of the developer and a plurality of openings for permitting discharge of an accommodated developer, and comprising a sealing member, mounted on the flexible container in a state in which the sealing member seals the plurality of openings, capable of exposing the plurality of openings by being moved;

an unsealing member for moving the sealing member; and

a frame for accommodating said developer accommodating container and said

unsealing member,
wherein said unsealing member for moving said sealing member is provided in an end side of said sealing member with respect to a substantially perpendicular direction to a direction in which the plurality of openings are arranged.

21. A developer accommodating unit according to Claim 20, wherein said unsealing member is provided rotatably in said frame, and moves the sealing member by rotation.

22. A developer accommodating unit according to Claim 21, wherein said unsealing member winds the sealing member therearound by the rotation to peel the sealing member from the flexible container, thereby to expose the openings.

23. A developer accommodating unit according to Claim 14, further comprising a developer carrying member for carrying the developer for developing a latent image.

24. A developer accommodating unit according to Claim 14, wherein said developer accommodating container is a bag.

25. A developer accommodating unit according to Claim 14, wherein said developer accommodating container is constituted by a sheet.

26. A developer accommodating unit according to Claim 25, wherein a thickness of the sheet is 0.03 mm to 0.15 mm..

27. A developer accommodating unit according to Claim 14, wherein said developer accommodating container incudes a portion having air-permeability.

28. A developer accommodating unit according to Claim 14, wherein said developer accommodating container incudes any of polyethylene terephthalate (PET), polyethylene (PE) and polypropylene (PP).

29. A process cartridge detachably mountable to an image forming apparatus main assembly, which is a process cartridge in which a developer accommodating container according to Claim 1 and an electrophotographic photosensitive member are integral with each other, or is a process cartridge

in which a developer accommodating unit according to Claim 14 and the electrophotographic photosensitive member are integral with each other.

30. An electrophotographic image forming apparatus comprising any one of:

a developer accommodating container according to Claim 1;
a developer accommodating unit according to Claim 14 ; and
a process cartridge according to claim 29

31. A developer accommodating container for accommodating a developer, said developer accommodating container comprising:
a flexible container including an injection port for permitting entrance of the developer and a plurality of openings for permitting discharge of the developer; and
a sealing member, mounted on said flexible container in a state in which said sealing member seals the plurality of openings, capable of exposing the plurality of openings by being moved.

32. A developer accommodating container for accommodating a developer, said developer accommodating container comprising:
a flexible container including an injection port for permitting entrance of the developer and an opening for permitting discharge of the developer; and
a sealing member, mounted on said flexible container in a state in which said sealing member seals the opening, capable of exposing the opening by being moved,
wherein said developer accommodating container comprises a connecting member for connecting an upstream-side end and a downstream-side end of the opening along an unsealing direction of said sealing member.

33. A developer accommodating container according to Claim 31 , wherein a length from an end to another end of the plurality of openings in an unsealing direction in which exposure of the plurality of openings advances is shorter than a length from an end to another end of the plurality of openings in a direction perpendicular to the unsealing direction.

34. A developer accommodating container according to Claim 31, comprising a bonding portion for bonding the injection port for permitting entrance of the developer.

35. A developer accommodating container according to Claim 31, wherein the injection port for permitting entrance of the developer and the plurality of openings for permitting discharge of the developer are different openings.

36. A developer accommodating container according to Claim 31, wherein of the injection port for permitting entrance of the developer and the plurality of openings for permitting discharge of the developer, an opening of the injection port is large.

CLAIMS

1. A developer accommodating container for accommodating a developer, said developer accommodating container comprising:

a flexible container including an injection port for permitting entrance of the developer and a plurality of openings for permitting discharge of the developer; and

a sealing member, mounted on said flexible container in a state in which said sealing member seals the plurality of openings, capable of exposing the plurality of openings by being moved,

wherein the plurality of openings are provided at different positions with respect to a perpendicular direction to an unsealing direction in which exposure of the plurality of openings advances.

2. A developer accommodating container according to Claim 1, wherein a length of the plurality of openings from an end to another end with respect to the unsealing direction is shorter than a length of the plurality of openings from an end to another end with respect to the perpendicular direction to the unsealing direction.

3. A developer accommodating container according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein said sealing member has a free end portion in an end side with respect to the unsealing direction, and a portion to be engaged to be engaged with an unsealing member for moving the sealing member is provided at the free end portion.

4. A developer accommodating container in which a developer used for image formation is accommodated, said developer accommodating container comprising:

a flexible container including a plurality of openings for permitting discharge of the accommodated developer; and

a sealing member, mounted on said flexible container in a state in which said sealing member seals the plurality of openings, capable of exposing the plurality of openings by being moved,

wherein the plurality of openings are provided at different positions with respect to a perpendicular direction to an unsealing direction in which exposure of the plurality of openings advances.

5. A developer accommodating container according to Claim 4, wherein a length of the plurality of openings from an end to another end with respect to the unsealing direction is shorter than a length of the plurality of openings from an end to another end with respect to the perpendicular direction to the unsealing direction.

6. A developer accommodating container according to Claim 4 or 5, wherein said sealing member has a free end portion in an end side with respect to the unsealing direction, and a portion to be engaged to be engaged with an unsealing member for moving the sealing member is provided at the free end portion.

7. A developer accommodating container according to Claim 3 or 6, comprising the unsealing member for moving said sealing member,

wherein the unsealing member includes an engaging portion engaging with the portion to be engaged of said sealing member.

8. A developer accommodating container for accommodating a developer, said developer accommodating container comprising:

a flexible container including an injection port for permitting entrance of the developer and a plurality of openings for permitting discharge of the developer; and

a sealing member, mounted on said flexible container in a state in which said sealing member seals the plurality of openings, capable of exposing the plurality of openings by being moved,

wherein said developer accommodating container comprises a portion-to-be-engaged to be engaged with an unsealing member for moving said sealing member is provided in an end side of said sealing member with respect to a substantially perpendicular direction to a direction in which the plurality of openings are arranged.

9. A developer accommodating container according to any one of Claims 1 - 8, wherein said flexible container is a bag.

10. A developer accommodating container according to any one of Claims 1 - 9, wherein said flexible container is constituted by a sheet.

11. A developer accommodating container according to Claim 10, wherein a thickness of the sheet is 0.03 mm to 0.15 mm.

12. A developer accommodating container according to any one of Claims 1 - 11, wherein said flexible container incudes a portion having air-permeability.

13. A developer accommodating container according to any one of Claims 1 - 12, wherein said flexible container incudes any of polyethylene terephthalate (PET), polyethylene (PE) and polypropylene (PP).

14. A developer accommodating unit comprising:

a developer accommodating container comprising flexible container including an injection port for permitting entrance of the developer and a plurality of openings for permitting discharge of an accommodated developer, and comprising a sealing member, mounted on the flexible container in a state in which the sealing member seals the plurality of openings, capable of exposing the plurality of openings by being moved;

an unsealing member for moving the sealing member; and

a frame for accommodating said developer accommodating container an said unsealing member,

wherein the plurality of openings are provided at different positions with respect to a perpendicular direction to an unsealing direction in which exposure of the plurality of openings advances.

15. A developer accommodating unit according to Claim 14, wherein a length of the plurality of openings from an end to another end with respect to the unsealing direction is shorter than a length of the plurality of openings from an end to another end with respect to the perpendicular direction to the unsealing direction.

16. A developer accommodating unit according to Claim 14 or 15, wherein said

unsealing member is provided rotatably in said frame, and moves the sealing member by rotation.

17. A developer accommodating unit according to Claim 16, wherein said unsealing member winds the sealing member therearound by the rotation to peel the sealing member from the flexible container, thereby to expose the openings.

18. A developer accommodating unit in which a developer used for image formation is accommodated, said developer accommodating unit comprising:

a developer accommodating container comprising flexible container including an injection port for permitting entrance of the developer and a plurality of openings for permitting discharge of an accommodated developer, and comprising a sealing member, mounted on the flexible container in a state in which the sealing member seals the plurality of openings, capable of exposing the plurality of openings by being moved;

an unsealing member for exposing the openings by rotating the sealing member to peel the sealing member from the flexible container; and

a frame for accommodating said developer accommodating container an said unsealing member,

wherein the plurality of openings are provided at different positions with respect to a perpendicular direction, of a rotational axis of said unsealing member, in which exposure of the plurality of openings advances.

19. A developer accommodating unit, for accommodating the developer, according to Claim 18, wherein a length of the plurality of openings from an end to another end with respect to the develop of the rotational axis is shorter than a length of the plurality of openings from an end to another end with respect to the perpendicular direction to the develop of the rotational axis.

20. A developer accommodating unit comprising:

a developer accommodating container in which a developer used for image formation is accommodated, said developer accommodating container comprising flexible container including an injection port for permitting entrance of the developer and a plurality of openings for permitting discharge of an accommodated developer, and comprising a sealing member, mounted on the flexible container in a state in which the sealing member seals the plurality of openings, capable of exposing the plurality of openings by being moved;

an unsealing member for moving the sealing member; and

a frame for accommodating said developer accommodating container an said unsealing member,

wherein said unsealing member for moving said sealing member is provided in an end side of said sealing member with respect to a substantially perpendicular direction to a direction in which exposure of the plurality of openings are arranged.

21. A developer accommodating unit according to Claim 20, wherein said unsealing member is provided rotatably in said frame, and moves the sealing member by rotation.

22. A developer accommodating unit according to Claim 21, wherein said unsealing member winds the sealing member therearound by the rotation to peel the sealing

member from the flexible container, thereby to expose the openings.

23. A developer accommodating unit according to any one of Claims 14 - 22, further comprising a developer carrying member for carrying the developer for developing a latent image.

24. A developer accommodating unit according to any one of Claims 14 - 23, wherein said flexible container is a bag.

25. A developer accommodating unit according to any one of Claims 14 - 24, wherein said flexible container is constituted by a sheet.

26. A developer accommodating unit according to Claim 25, wherein a thickness of the sheet is 0.03 mm to 0.15 mm.

27. A developer accommodating unit according to any one of Claims 14 - 26, wherein said flexible container incudes a portion having air-permeability.

28. A developer accommodating unit according to any one of Claims 14 - 27, wherein said flexible container incudes any of polyethylene terephthalate (PET), polyethylene (PE) and polypropylene (PP).

29. A process cartridge detachably mountable to an image forming apparatus main assembly, which is a process cartridge in which a developer accommodating container according to any one of Claims 1 - 13 and an electrophotographic photosensitive member are integral with each other, or is a process cartridge in which a developer accommodating unit according to any one of Claims 14 - 28 and the electrophotographic photosensitive member are integral with each other.

30. An image forming apparatus comprising any one of:
a developer accommodating container according to any one of Claims 1 - 13;
a developer accommodating unit according to any one of Claims 14 - 28 ; and
a process cartridge according to claim 29.