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(54) Title: TAMPON APPLICATOR HAVING ROLLED GRIPPER

(57) Abstract

A method of forming an improved finger grip at the gripper end of a paperboard tampon tube is disclosed. This gripper end has an outwardly rolled edge produced by applying moisture to the gripper end of the paperboard tube having a diameter of less than about 25 mm, heating a forming tool to about 100 °F to about 350 °F, rotating the paperboard tube with respect to the forming tool at a rate of about 50 to 1000 rpm, and contacting the gripper end of the paperboard tube with the forming tool for about 0.2 to about 5 seconds. In this manner, the forming tool rolls the gripper end of the paperboard tube outwardly to form a radiused surface at the outside of the gripper end of the paperboard applicator tube. The resulting tampon applicator is also disclosed.

