

Abstract of the Invention

Disposable Processing Bag with Alignment Feature

The present invention is an alignment device for a bag containing one or more ports wherein the alignment device is attached to either the one or more ports such as by wire ties, clamps or cable ties or to the bag adjacent the one or more ports via adhesives or welding or molding such as overmolding. The plate has either an indicator or a unique outer edge shape that is designed to fit into a corresponding unique opening in a bag holder such as a carboy or tote to ensure proper alignment of the bag and its port(s) in the holder. In one embodiment the plate formed of plastic, metal, wood or composite material has a series of holes equal to and in alignment with the one or more ports of the bag and the port(s) are extended through the holes of the plate and the plate is attached to the bag by retainers on the port(s) below the plate. Such retainers can be plastic cable ties, wire ties, tube clamps and the like. Alternatively, the plate may be fitted over the port(s) and attached to the bag such as by thermal bonding or welding or overmolded to the bag or the bag is formed and molded to the plate. The plate may have any unique design that ensures that the alignment of the bag in the holder is correct and cannot be reversed or incorrectly aligned. Such designs use a plate that is affixed to the bag or its port(s) in such a way that it cannot be realigned or moved out of register. Such designs include but are not limited to graphic indicators and unique shapes.

Figure 1