CLAIMS:

1. A container including:

a receiver portion having an aperture to receive at least part of a disposable object;

a door structure moveable between a substantially closed configuration and an open configuration;

said door structure moveable to said open configuration by relative insertion of said object into said aperture;

a cutting member to cut off at least a portion of said object from the remainder of said object;

wherein when the doors are in said closed configuration the cutting member is prevented from engaging with said object and when said doors are in said open configuration the cutting member is engageable with said object; and

a receptacle to receive and house said cut off portion of said object.

2. The container of claim 1 wherein said disposable object comprises a needle assembly including a needle shaft and a hub of a needle.

3. The container of claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the receiver portion and receptacle are relatively connectable to each other.

4. The container of claim 3 wherein the receiver portion and receptacle are hingedly connectable to each other.

5. The container of any one of the preceding claims wherein the receptacle comprises a main body and a lid.

6. The container of claim 5 wherein the receptacle further includes at least one spring member extending therefrom.

7. The container of claim 6 wherein the spring member biases the container in a first non-cutting position.

8. The container of any one of the preceding claims wherein said door structure comprises a plurality of door members wherein each door member is relatively moveable from a closed configuration to an open configuration.

9. The container of claim 8 wherein the door members are spring mounted on an internal surface of the receiver portion.

10. The container of claim 8 comprising opposing door members each comprising a main body and wherein the main body of one door member has a concave abutment edge and the main body of the other door member has a convex abutment edge, said respective abutment edges forming a substantially tight seal at an abutment interface.

11. The container of claim 10 wherein said door members have a distal edge at an end of the main body which is distal the abutment interface and wherein each distal edge is connected to a spring structure.

12. The container of claim 11 wherein the spring structures comprise two relatively flexible, curved and elongate arms, said arms configured to at least partially bow outwardly relative to each other as the door members move relatively apart from each other.

13. The container of any one of the preceding claims wherein the door members are substantially recessed within the container.

14. The container of any one of claims 6 to 13 wherein the cutting member is positioned in, on or adjacent to the lid of the receptacle.

15. The container of claim 14 wherein the cutting member comprises a blade having a fixed end and extending to a free cutting edge.

16. The container of claim 15 wherein the blade is mounted on a platform of a safety connection

17. The container of claim 16 wherein the safety mechanism further comprises one or more depending legs having an attachment flange to secure the safety connection to

the receptacle and wherein said attachment flange is secured in a catch member extending from a sidewall of the receptacle.

18. The container of claim 17 wherein the platform and the lid substantially hold the blade therebetween and wherein said platform is removably attached to the lid by one or more tear off tabs such that removal of the lid from the receptacle breaks the tear off tabs and releases the blade from between the platform and the lid.

19. The container of claim 16 further comprising an aperture defined in the lid at a location of the lid which is superior to at least part of the cutting member and the platform.

20. The container of claim 19 wherein said aperture is of a size to receive a tool to break the tear off tabs to release the cutting member from the platform and into the main body.

21. The container of any one of claims 5 to 20 wherein said lid of the receptacle defines a cut-out aperture to receive a needle and a needle hub therein.

22. The container of any one of claims 5 to 21 further comprising a cutting block said cutting block preventing the cutting of the object until the door members are in their fully open position.

23. The container of claim 22 wherein said cutting block is provided on and extends upwardly from an upper surface of the lid and adjacent said cut-out aperture of the lid.

24. The container of claim 23 wherein when the door members are in said closed configuration, the cutting block abuts with at least one sidewall of one or both door members and prevents cutting.

25. The container of any one of the preceding claims wherein the receptacle further comprises one or more internal ribs which extend from an internal surface of a sidewall and form a slope onto which discarded needle parts or other sharps may fall.

26. A container including:

a receiver portion having an aperture to receive at least part of an object to be disposed;

a door structure moveable between a substantially closed configuration and an open configuration to receive at least part of said object;

a cutting member to cut off least a portion of said object from the remainder of said object;

a receptacle to receive and house said cut off portion of said object, said receptacle having a base and a lid, said cutting member connected to said receptacle;

wherein at least partial removal of the lid member from the base releases said cutting member from its connection with said receptacle.

27. The container of claim 26 wherein said object comprises a needle assembly including a needle shaft and a hub of a needle.

28. The container of claim 26 or claim 27 wherein the receiver portion and receptacle are relatively connectable to each other.

29. The container of claim 28 wherein the receiver portion and receptacle are hingedly connectable to each other.

30. The container of any one of claims 26 to 29 wherein the receptacle further includes at least one spring member extending therefrom.

31. The container of claim 30 wherein the spring member biases the container in a first non-cutting position.

32. The container of claim 31 wherein the door structure comprises a plurality of door members wherein each door member is relatively moveable from a closed configuration to an open configuration.

33. The container of claim 32 wherein the door members are spring mounted on an internal surface of the receiver portion.

34. The container of claim 33 wherein the door members are substantially recessed within the container.

35. The container of any one of claims 26 to 34 wherein the cutting member is positioned in, on or adjacent to the lid of the receptacle.

36. The container of claim 35 wherein the cutting member comprises a blade having a fixed end and extending to a free cutting edge.

37. The container of claim 36 wherein the blade is mounted on a platform of a safety connection, said safety connected comprising one or more depending legs having an attachment flange to secure said safety connection to the receptacle and wherein said attachment flange is received in a catch member extending from a sidewall of the receptacle.

38. The container of claim 37 wherein the platform and the lid substantially fix the blade therebetween and wherein said platform is removably attached to the lid by one or more tear off tabs such that removal of the lid from the receptacle breaks the tear off tabs and releases the blade from between the platform and the lid.

39. A kit comprising:

a plurality of needle members; and

a container comprising;

a receiver portion having an aperture to receive at least part of at least one of the needle members;

a door structure moveable between a substantially closed configuration and an open configuration;

said door structure moveable to said open configuration by relative insertion of said at least one needle member into said aperture;

a cutting member to cut off at least a portion of said at least one needle member from the remainder of said object;

wherein when the doors are in said closed configuration the cutting member is prevented from engaging with said at least one needle member and when said doors are in said open configuration the cutting member is engageable with said at least one needle member; and

a receptacle to receive and house said cut off portion of said needle member.

40. A kit including:

a plurality of needle members; and

a container comprising;

a receiver portion having an aperture to receive at least part of at least one of said needle members;

a door structure moveable between a substantially closed configuration and an open configuration to receive at least part of at least one of said needle members;

a cutting member to cut off at least a portion of said at least one needle member from the remainder of said object;

a receptacle to receive and house said cut off portion of said at least one needle member, said receptacle having a base and a lid, said cutting member connected to said receptacle;

wherein at least partial removal of the lid member from the base releases said cutting member from its engagement with said receptacle.

CLAIMS:

1. A container including:

a receiver portion having an aperture to receive at least part of a disposable object;

a door structure moveable between a substantially closed configuration and an open configuration;

said door structure moveable to said open configuration by relative insertion of said object into said aperture;

a cutting member to cut off at least a portion of said object from the remainder of said object;

wherein, in said closed configuration the door structure provides a locking mechanism which substantially immobilises the cutting member, thereby preventing the cutting member from engaging the object and when said door structure is in the open configuration the locking mechanism is released to cause the cutting member to engage and cut said object; and

a receptacle to receive and house said cut off portion of said object.

2. The container of claim 1 wherein said disposable object comprises a needle assembly including a needle shaft and a hub of a needle.

3. The container of claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the receiver portion and receptacle are relatively connectable to each other.

4. The container of claim 3 wherein the receiver portion and receptacle are hingedly connectable to each other.

5. The container of any one of the preceding claims wherein the receptacle comprises a main body and a lid.

6. The container of claim 5 wherein the receptacle further includes at least one spring member extending therefrom.

7. The container of claim 6 wherein the spring member biases the container in a first non-cutting position.

8. The container of any one of the preceding claims wherein said door structure comprises a plurality of door members wherein each door member is relatively moveable from a closed configuration to an open configuration.

9. The container of claim 8 wherein the door members are spring mounted on an internal surface of the receiver portion.

10. The container of claim 8 comprising opposing door members each comprising a main body and wherein the main body of one door member has a concave abutment edge and the main body of the other door member has a convex abutment edge, said respective abutment edges forming a substantially tight seal at an abutment interface.

11. The container of claim 10 wherein said door members have a distal edge at an end of the main body which is distal the abutment interface and wherein each distal edge is connected to a spring structure.

12. The container of claim 11 wherein the spring structures comprise two relatively flexible, curved and elongate arms, said arms configured to at least partially bow outwardly relative to each other as the door members move relatively apart from each other.

13. The container of any one of the preceding claims wherein the door members are substantially recessed within the container.

14. The container of any one of claims 6 to 13 wherein the cutting member is positioned in, on or adjacent to the lid of the receptacle.

15. The container of claim 14 wherein the cutting member comprises a blade having a fixed end and extending to a free cutting edge.

16. The container of claim 15 wherein the blade is mounted on a platform of a safety connection.

17. The container of claim 16 wherein the safety mechanism further comprises one or more depending legs having an attachment flange to secure the safety connection to the receptacle and wherein said attachment flange is secured in a catch member extending from a sidewall of the receptacle.

18. The container of claim 17 wherein the platform and the lid substantially hold the blade therebetween and wherein said platform is removably attached to the lid by one or more tear off tabs such that removal of the lid from the receptacle breaks the tear off tabs and releases the blade from between the platform and the lid.

19. The container of claim 16 further comprising an aperture defined in the lid at a location of the lid which is superior to at least part of the cutting member and the platform.

20. The container of claim 19 wherein said aperture is of a size to receive a tool to break the tear off tabs to release the cutting member from the platform and into the main body.

21. The container of any one of claims 5 to 20 wherein said lid of the receptacle defines a cut-out aperture to receive a needle and a needle hub therein.

22. The container of any one of claims 5 to 21 further comprising a cutting block said cutting block preventing the cutting of the object until the door members are in their fully open position.

23. The container of claim 22 wherein said cutting block is provided on and extends upwardly from an upper surface of the lid and adjacent said cut-out aperture of the lid.

24. The container of claim 23 wherein when the door members are in said closed configuration, the cutting block abuts with at least one sidewall of one or both door members and prevents cutting.

25. The container of any one of the preceding claims wherein the receptacle further comprises one or more internal ribs which extend from an internal surface of a sidewall and form a slope onto which discarded needle parts or other sharps may fall.

26. A container including:

a receiver portion having an aperture to receive at least part of an object to be disposed;

a door structure moveable between a substantially closed configuration and an open configuration to receive at least part of said object;

a cutting member to cut off least a portion of said object from the remainder of said object;

a receptacle to receive and house said cut off portion of said object, said receptacle having a base and a lid, said cutting member connected to said receptacle;

wherein at least partial removal of the lid member from the base releases said cutting member from its connection with said receptacle.

27. The container of claim 26 wherein said object comprises a needle assembly including a needle shaft and a hub of a needle.

28. The container of claim 26 or claim 27 wherein the receiver portion and receptacle are relatively connectable to each other.

29. The container of claim 28 wherein the receiver portion and receptacle are hingedly connectable to each other.

30. The container of any one of claims 26 to 29 wherein the receptacle further includes at least one spring member extending therefrom.

31. The container of claim 30 wherein the spring member biases the container in a first non-cutting position.

32. The container of claim 31 wherein the door structure comprises a plurality of door members wherein each door member is relatively moveable from a closed configuration to an open configuration.

33. The container of claim 32 wherein the door members are spring mounted on an internal surface of the receiver portion.

34. The container of claim 33 wherein the door members are substantially recessed within the container.

35. The container of any one of claims 26 to 34 wherein the cutting member is positioned in, on or adjacent to the lid of the receptacle.

36. The container of claim 35 wherein the cutting member comprises a blade having a fixed end and extending to a free cutting edge.

37. The container of claim 36 wherein the blade is mounted on a platform of a safety connection, said safety connected comprising one or more depending legs having an attachment flange to secure said safety connection to the receptacle and wherein said attachment flange is received in a catch member extending from a sidewall of the receptacle.

38. The container of claim 37 wherein the platform and the lid substantially fix the blade therebetween and wherein said platform is removably attached to the lid by one or more tear off

tabs such that removal of the lid from the receptacle breaks the tear off tabs and releases the blade from between the platform and the lid.

39. A kit comprising:

a plurality of needle members; and

a container comprising;

a receiver portion having an aperture to receive at least part of at least one of the needle members;

a door structure moveable between a substantially closed configuration and an open configuration;

said door structure moveable to said open configuration by relative insertion of said at least one needle member into said aperture;

a cutting member to cut off at least a portion of the at least one needle member;

wherein in said closed configuration the door structure provides a locking mechanism which substantially immobilises the cutting member thereby preventing the cutting member from engaging with the at least one needle member and when said doors structure is in said open configuration the locking mechanism is released to cause the cutting member to engage and cut the at least one needle member; and

a receptacle to receive and house said cut off portion of said needle member.

40. A kit including:

a plurality of needle members; and

a container comprising;

a receiver portion having an aperture to receive at least part of at least one of said needle members;

a door structure moveable between a substantially closed configuration and an open configuration to receive at least part of at least one of said needle members;

a cutting member to cut off at least a portion of said at least one needle member from the remainder of said object;

a receptacle to receive and house said cut off portion of said at least one needle member, said receptacle having a base and a lid, said cutting member connected to said receptacle;

wherein at least partial removal of the lid member from the base releases said cutting member from its engagement with said receptacle.