Figure 2 is a cross-sectional illustration of a process cartridge according to Embodiment 1.

Figure 3 is an outer appearance perspective view of the process cartridge according to Embodiment 1.

Figure 4 is a perspective view of a developing unit according to Embodiment 1.

Parts (a) to (c) of Figure 5 are schematic illustrations which illustrates a mounting operation of the process cartridge relative to the main assembly of the image forming apparatus by Embodiment 1.

Figure 6 is a perspective view of the process cartridge positioned in the main assembly of the image forming apparatus in Embodiment 1.

Figure 7 is a sectional view which illustrates a developing device spacing operation in Embodiment 1.

Figure 8 is a sectional view which illustrates a developing device contacting operation in Embodiment 1.

Figure 9 is a perspective view of the process cartridge in the state before mounting to the main assembly of the image forming apparatus of the process cartridge in Embodiment 1.

Figure 10 is a perspective view of the process cartridge which is released the developing device separation member of the process cartridge in-the Embodiment 1.

Parts (a) to (c) of Figure 11 are operation illustrations of the developing device separation member of the process cartridge in Embodiment 1.

Figure 12 is illustrates a supporting structure of a developing roller in Embodiment 1.

Figure 13 is an exploded view of a shaft coupling member in Embodiment 1.

Parts (a) and (b) of Figure 14 are cross-sectional illustrations of a shaft coupling member in Embodiment 1.

Figure 15 is a perspective view of a shaft coupling member of the developing unit in Embodiment 1.

Figure 16 is a perspective view which illustrates a first main assembly driving member and a second main assembly driving member of the image forming apparatus in Embodiment 1.

Figure 17 is a side view which illustrates an operation of the shaft coupling member at the time of the separating operation of the developing unit in Embodiment 1.

Figure 18 is a schematic illustration which illustrates an operation of the shaft coupling member at the time of the separating operation of the developing unit in Embodiment 1.

Figure 19 is a side view which illustrates an operation of the shaft coupling member at the time of a contacting operation of the developing unit in Embodiment 1.

Figure 20 is a schematic illustration which illustrates an operation of the shaft coupling member at the time of a contacting operation of the developing unit in Embodiment 1.

Figure 21 is a side view which illustrates positioning of the shaft coupling member in Embodiment 2 of the present invention.

Figure 22 is a perspective view which illustrates a shaft coupling portion in embodiment 3 of the present invention.

Figure 23 is a schematic illustration which illustrates an operation of a shaft coupling member at the time of the Separating operation of the developing unit in Embodiment 3.

Figure 24 is a perspective view of a state before carrying out remounting of the process cartridge in Embodiment 1 to the main assembly of the image forming apparatus.

Figure 25 is a perspective view when carrying out remounting of the process cartridge in Embodiment 1 to the main assembly of the image forming apparatus.

Parts (a) to (c) of Figure 26 are views which illustrate a structure for carrying out remounting of the process cartridge in Embodiment 1 to the main assembly of the image forming apparatus.

Parts (a) and (b) of Figure 27 are schematic illustrations which illustrate a mounting operation for the process cartridge in Embodiment 1 to the main assembly

of the image forming apparatus.

Figure 28 is a schematic illustration which illustrates an operation of a shaft coupling member at the time of the separating operation of the developing unit in Embodiment 1.

Figure 29 is a perspective view which illustrates a shaft coupling member in the embodiment 3 of the present invention.

Parts of Figure 30 are side views which illustrate aholding structure of the shaft coupling member in embodiment 4 of the present invention.

Figure 31 is a side view which illustrates a holding structure of the shaft coupling member in the embodiment 4 of the present invention.

[BEST MODE FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION]

The preferred embodiments of the present invention will be described in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

Embodiment 1

Referring to Figure 1 – Figure 20, Figure 24 – Figure 28, the process cartridge and the electrophotographic image forming apparatus according to an embodiment of the present invention will be described.

Figure 1 illustrates a general arrangement of