

DISPENSING OF ATTACHMENTS

Abstract

A device (11) for dispensing plastic attachments (10A, 10B) of the type which are formed as part of a roll of continuously connected ladder stock. In one embodiment, the device (11) includes a pair of hollow slotted needles (35-1, 35-2) each having a tip (39-1, 39-2), a rear end (41-1, 42-2) and a longitudinal axis. A feed wheel (45) placed proximate to the rear ends (41-1, 41-2) of the pair of needles (35-1, 35-2), is used to feed individual attachments (10A, 10B) of a roll of ladder stock into said pair of needles (35-1, 35-2) through their respective rear ends (41-1, 41-2) at angles relative to the longitudinal axes thereof. Once inserted into the needles (35-1, 35-2), an attachment (10A, 10B) is severed from the remainder of the ladder stock by a knife (65) and is then expelled from the needles (35-1, 35-2) by a pair of ejector rods (73-1, 73-2) movable along the longitudinal axes of the pair of needles (35-1, 35-2). The pair of needles (35-1, 35-2), the feed wheel (45), the knife (65), and the pair of ejector rods (73-1, 73-2) are all mounted on a vertically movable head member (2) driven by an electric motor assembly (27).

Fig. 5

This is the replacement sheet

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