

Claims

1. An ink container comprising:
a chamber containing ink;
a light emitter positioned outside of the chamber;
a memory positioned outside of the chamber and storing container discrimination information that indicates a color of the ink in the chamber;
an electrical contact positioned outside of the chamber; and
a control circuit positioned outside of the chamber and configured to control the light emitter based on control information including color information received via the electrical contact and the container discrimination information stored in the memory.
2. An ink container according to Claim 1, wherein the control circuit is configured to turn on the light emitter when the received control information includes a turn-on code for turning on the light emitter, if the received color information corresponds to the container discrimination information.
3. An ink container according to Claim 2, wherein the control circuit is configured to turn on the light emitter in response to the turn-on code, if the received color information is the same as the container discrimination information.
4. An ink container according to Claim 2, wherein the control circuit is configured to turn off the light emitter when the received control information includes a turn-off code for turning off the light emitter, if the received color information corresponds to the container discrimination information.
5. An ink container according to Claim 4, wherein the control circuit is configured to turn off the light emitter in response to the turn-off code, if the received color information is the same as the container discrimination information.
6. An ink container according to Claim 1, wherein the control circuit is configured to control whether to turn on the light emitter based on the received color information and the container discrimination information, if the received control information includes a turn-on code for turning on the light emitter.

7. An ink container according to Claim 6, wherein the control circuit is configured to turn on the light emitter in response to the turn-on code, if a color indicated by the received color information is the same as the color indicated by the container discrimination information.

8. An ink container according to Claim 6, wherein the control circuit is configured to turn on the light emitter in response to the turn-on code, if the received color information is the same as the container discrimination information.

9. An ink container according to Claim 6, wherein the control circuit is configured to control whether to turn off the light emitter based on the received color information and the container discrimination information, if the received control information includes a turn-off code for turning off the light emitter.

10. An ink container according to Claim 9, wherein the control circuit is configured to turn off the light emitter in response to the turn-off code, if a color indicated by the received color information is the same as the color indicated by the container discrimination information.

11. An ink container according to Claim 9, wherein the control circuit is configured to turn off the light emitter in response to the turn-off code, if the received color information is the same as the container discrimination information.

12. An ink container according to Claim 1,
wherein the control circuit is configured to turn on the light emitter when the received control information includes a turn-on code for turning on the light emitter, if the received color information is the same as the container discrimination information, and
wherein the control circuit is configured to turn off the light emitter when the received control information includes a turn-off code for turning off the light emitter, if the received color information is the same as the container discrimination information.

13. An ink container according to Claim 1, wherein the control circuit is configured to turn on the light emitter when the received control information includes a turn-on code for turning on the light emitter, if a color indicated by the received color information is the same as the color indicated

by the container discrimination information.

14. An ink container according to Claim 13, wherein the control circuit is configured to turn off the light emitter when the received control information includes a turn-off code for turning off the light emitter, if a color indicated by the received color information is the same as the color indicated by the container discrimination information.

15. An ink container according to any one of Claims 4, 5, 9, 12 and 14, wherein the control circuit is capable of continuously maintaining an on-state of the light emitter from the time when the control circuit turns on the light emitter based on the turn-on code until the control circuit turns off the light emitter based on the turn-off code.

16. An ink container according to any one of Claims 1, 4, 9, 12 and to 14, further comprising a substrate positioned outside of the chamber and provided with the light emitter and the electrical contact,

wherein the light emitter is disposed on a first surface of the substrate that faces toward the chamber, and wherein the electrical contact is disposed on a second surface of the substrate that is opposite the first surface and that faces away from the chamber.

17. An ink container according to Claim 16, further comprising a container body in which the chamber is formed,

wherein the substrate is disposed on an outer surface of the container body so that the light emitter is between the substrate and the outer surface.

18. An ink container according to Claim 16, further comprising a container body in which the chamber is formed,

wherein an outer surface of the container body includes a recessed portion, and

wherein the substrate is positioned over the recessed portion so that the light emitter is disposed in the recessed portion.

19. An ink container according to Claim 16, wherein the ink container is configured so that at least a portion of light emitted from the light emitter travels away from the ink container without passing through the chamber.

20. An ink container according to Claim 16, further comprising:

a latch lever elastically deformable and having a latching portion;
 and
 an ink supply port disposed at a bottom side of the ink container,
 wherein the substrate is inclined relative to the bottom side at a
 position which is between the latching portion and the ink supply port when
 the ink container is viewed in a direction perpendicular to the bottom side.

21. An ink container according to Claim 20, wherein the substrate is
 disposed between the latching portion and the bottom side when the ink
 container is viewed in a direction parallel to the bottom side.

22. An ink container according to any one of Claims 1, 4, 9, 12 and to
 14, further comprising:

a substrate positioned outside of the chamber and provided with
 the light emitter, the electrical contact, the memory and the control circuit;
 a latch lever elastically deformable and having a latching portion;

and

an ink supply port disposed at a bottom side of the ink container,
 wherein the substrate is disposed between the latching portion and
 the ink supply port when the ink container is viewed in a direction
 perpendicular to the bottom side.

23. An ink container according to Claim 22, wherein the substrate is
 inclined relative to the bottom side at a position which is between the
 latching portion and the ink supply port when the ink container is viewed in a
 direction perpendicular to the bottom side.

24. An ink container according to Claim 23, wherein the substrate is
 disposed between the latching portion and the bottom side when the ink
 container is viewed in a direction parallel to the bottom side.

25. An ink container according to Claim 24, wherein the substrate is
 disposed on an inclined portion between the bottom side and a side
 substantially perpendicular to the bottom side.

26. An ink container according to Claim 22, wherein the electrical
 contact is inclined relative to the bottom side at a position which is between
 the latching portion and the ink supply port when the ink container is viewed
 in a direction perpendicular to the bottom side.

27. An ink container according to Claim 26, wherein the electrical contact is disposed between the latching portion and the bottom side when the ink container is viewed in a direction parallel to the bottom side.

28. An ink container according to Claim 1, wherein light emitted from the light emitter includes visible light.

29. An ink container according to Claim 1, further comprising an electrical power contact positioned outside of the chamber and configured to supply the light emitter with electrical power.

30. An ink container according to Claim 29, further comprising a clock signal contact positioned outside of the chamber and configured to supply the control circuit with a clock signal,
wherein the control circuit is configured to control turn-on timing and turn-off timing of the light emitter based on the clock signal supplied from the clock signal contact.

31. An ink container according to Claim 1, wherein the light emitter is an LED that emits visible light.

32. An ink container according to any one of Claims 1, 4, 9, 12 and to 14, further comprising a substrate positioned outside of the chamber and provided with the light emitter, the memory, the control circuit and four contacts,

wherein the four contacts are (i) the electrical contact, (ii) a clock signal contact configured to supply the control circuit with a clock signal, (iii) an electrical power contact configured to supply the light emitter with electrical power, and (iv) a ground contact.

33. An ink container according to any one of Claims 1, 4, 9, 12 and to 14, further comprising a substrate positioned outside of the chamber and provided with the light emitter and the electrical contact,

wherein the light emitter is disposed on a first surface of the substrate that faces toward an inside of the ink container, and
wherein the electrical contact is disposed on a second surface of the substrate that is opposite the first surface.

34. An ink container according to Claim 33, further comprising a container body in which the chamber is formed,

wherein the substrate is disposed on an outer surface of the container body so that the light emitter is between the substrate and the outer surface.

35. An ink container according to Claim 33, further comprising a container body in which the chamber is formed,

wherein an outer surface of the container body includes a recessed portion, and

wherein the substrate is positioned over the recessed portion so that the light emitter is disposed in the recessed portion.

36. An ink container according to Claim 33, wherein the ink container is configured so that at least a portion of light emitted from the light emitter travels away from the ink container without passing through the chamber.

37. An ink container according to Claim 33, further comprising:
a latch lever elastically deformable and having a latching portion;

and

an ink supply port disposed at a bottom side of the ink container,
wherein the substrate is positioned between the latching portion and the ink supply port when the ink container is viewed in a direction perpendicular to the bottom side.

38. An ink container comprising:
a chamber containing ink;
a light emitter positioned outside of the chamber;
a memory positioned outside of the chamber and storing container discrimination information that indicates a color of the ink in the chamber;
an electrical contact positioned outside of the chamber; and
a control circuit positioned outside of the chamber and configured to control the light emitter based on a control code for controlling the light emitter and color information received via the electrical contact and the container discrimination information stored in the memory.

39. An ink container according to Claim 38, wherein the control circuit is configured to turn on the light emitter if (i) the control code is a turn-on code for turning on the light emitter and (ii) the color information corresponds to the container discrimination information.

40. An ink container according to Claim 39, wherein the control

circuit is configured to turn on the light emitter if (i) the control code is the turn-on code and (ii) the color information is the same as the container discrimination information.

41. An ink container according to Claim 39, wherein the control circuit is configured to turn off the light emitter if (i) the control code is a turn-off code for turning off the light emitter and (ii) the color information corresponds to the container discrimination information.

42. An ink container according to Claim 41, wherein the control circuit is configured to turn off the light emitter if (i) the control code is the turn-off code and (ii) the color information is the same as the container discrimination information.

43. An ink container according to Claim 38, wherein the control circuit is configured to turn on the light emitter if (i) the control code is a turn-on code for turning on the light emitter and (ii) a color indicated by the color information is the same as the color indicated by the container discrimination information.

44. An ink container according to Claim 43, wherein the control circuit is configured to turn off the light emitter if (i) the control code is a turn-off code for turning off the light emitter and (ii) a color indicated by the color information is the same as the color indicated by the container discrimination information.

45. An ink container according to Claim 38, wherein the control circuit is configured to turn on the light emitter if (i) the control code is a turn-on code for turning on the light emitter and (ii) the color information is the same as the container discrimination information, and

wherein the control circuit is configured to turn off the light emitter, if (i) the control code is a turn-off code for turning off the light emitter and (ii) the color information is the same as the container discrimination information.

46. An ink container according to any one of Claims 41, 42, 44 and 45, wherein the control circuit is capable of continuously maintaining an on-state of the light emitter from the time when the control circuit turns on the light emitter based on the turn-on code until the control circuit turns off the light

emitter based on the turn-off code.

47. An ink container according to any one of Claims 38, 41, 44 and to 45, further comprising a substrate positioned outside of the chamber and provided with the light emitter and the electrical contact,

wherein the light emitter is disposed on a first surface of the substrate that faces toward the chamber, and

wherein the electrical contact is disposed on a second surface of the substrate that is opposite the first surface and that faces away from the chamber.

48. An ink container according to Claim 47, further comprising a container body in which the chamber is formed,

wherein the substrate is disposed on an outer surface of the container body so that the light emitter is between the substrate and the outer surface.

49. An ink container according to Claim 47, further comprising a container body in which the chamber is formed,

wherein an outer surface of the container body includes a recessed portion, and

wherein the substrate is positioned over the recessed portion so that the light emitter is disposed in the recessed portion.

50. An ink container according to Claim 47, wherein the ink container is configured so that at least a portion of light emitted from the light emitter travels away from the ink container without passing through the chamber.

51. An ink container according to Claim 47, further comprising:
a latch lever elastically deformable and having a latching portion;
and

an ink supply port disposed at a bottom side of the ink container,
wherein the substrate is inclined relative to the bottom side at a position which is between the latching portion and the ink supply port when the ink container is viewed in a direction perpendicular to the bottom side.

52. An ink container according to Claim 51, wherein the substrate is disposed between the latching portion and the bottom side when the ink container is viewed in a direction parallel to the bottom side.

53. An ink container according to any one of Claims 38, 41, 44 and to 45, further comprising:

a substrate positioned outside of the chamber and provided with the light emitter, the electrical contact, the memory and the control circuit;
a latch lever elastically deformable and having a latching portion;
and

an ink supply port disposed at a bottom side of the ink container, wherein the substrate is disposed between the latching portion and the ink supply port when the ink container is viewed in a direction perpendicular to the bottom side.

54. An ink container according to Claim 53, wherein the substrate is inclined relative to the bottom side at a position which is between the latching portion and the ink supply port when the ink container is viewed in a direction perpendicular to the bottom side.

55. An ink container according to Claim 54, wherein the substrate is disposed between the latching portion and the bottom side when the ink container is viewed in a direction parallel to the bottom side.

56. An ink container according to Claim 55, wherein the substrate is disposed on an inclined portion between the bottom side and a side substantially perpendicular to the bottom side.

57. An ink container according to Claim 53, wherein the electrical contact is inclined relative to the bottom side at a position which is between the latching portion and the ink supply port when the ink container is viewed in a direction perpendicular to the bottom side.

58. An ink container according to Claim 57, wherein the electrical contact is disposed between the latching portion and the bottom side when the ink container is viewed in a direction parallel to the bottom side.

59. An ink container according to Claim 38, wherein light emitted from the light emitter includes visible light.

60. An ink container according to Claim 38, further comprising an electrical power contact positioned outside of the chamber and configured to supply the light emitter with electrical power.

61. An ink container according to Claim 60, further comprising a clock signal contact positioned outside of the chamber and configured to supply the control circuit with a clock signal,
wherein the control circuit is configured to control turn-on timing and turn-off timing of the light emitter based on the clock signal supplied from the clock signal contact.

62. An ink container according to Claim 38, wherein the light emitter is an LED that emits visible light.

63. An ink container according to any one of Claims 38, 41, 44 and to 45, further comprising a substrate positioned outside of the chamber and provided with the light emitter, the memory, the control circuit and four contacts,

wherein the four contacts are (i) the electrical contact, (ii) a clock signal contact configured to supply the control circuit with a clock signal, (iii) an electrical power contact configured to supply the light emitter with electrical power, and (iv) a ground contact.

64. An ink container according to any one of Claims 38, 41, 44 and to 45, further comprising a substrate positioned outside of the chamber and provided with the light emitter and the electrical contact,

wherein the light emitter is disposed on a first surface of the substrate that faces toward an inside of the ink container, and

wherein the electrical contact is disposed on a second surface of the substrate that is opposite the first surface.

65. An ink container according to Claim 64, further comprising a container body in which the chamber is formed,

wherein the substrate is disposed on an outer surface of the container body so that the light emitter is between the substrate and the outer surface.

66. An ink container according to Claim 64, further comprising a container body in which the chamber is formed,

wherein an outer surface of the container body includes a recessed portion, and

wherein the substrate is positioned over the recessed portion so that the light emitter is disposed in the recessed portion.

67. An ink container according to Claim 64, wherein the ink container is configured so that at least a portion of light emitted from the light emitter travels away from the ink container without passing through the chamber.

68. An ink container according to Claim 64, further comprising:
a latch lever elastically deformable and having a latching portion;
and
an ink supply port disposed at a bottom side of the ink container,
wherein the substrate is positioned between the latching portion
and the ink supply port when the ink container is viewed in a direction
perpendicular to the bottom side.

69. An ink container detachably mountable to a mounting portion of an ink jet printer including an apparatus contact provided in the mounting portion and a light receptor configured to obtain light reception information used for discriminating properness of position of the ink container mounted in the mounting portion, said ink container comprising: a memory configured to store discrimination information of the ink container; a container contact electrically connectable to the apparatus contact provided in the mounting portion; a light emitting portion configured to emit light; a controller configured to control light emission of the light emitting portion, based on individual information corresponding to the ink container, supplied through the container contact from the apparatus contact, and the discrimination information stored in the memory; and a light guide member having a light incident portion into which the light emitted from the light emitting portion is entered and a light emergence portion, the light guide member configured to guide the light entered from the light incident portion to the light emergence portion so as to cause the light receptor to receive the light emerged from the light emergence portion.

70. An ink container according to Claim 69, further comprising: a casing forming a chamber configured to contain ink; an ink supply port configured to supply ink in the chamber to an ink jet head, wherein the ink supply port is provided in a first surface of the casing which is opposed to a second surface of the casing; and wherein the light emitting portion is provided at a neighborhood of the first surface, and wherein the light emergence portion is disposed at a position which is more remote from the first surface than the light incident portion and which is closer the second surface of the casing than the light incident portion.

71. An ink container according to Claim 69, further comprising a substrate provided with the light emitting portion, the container contact, the memory and the controller.

72. An ink container according to Claim 71, further comprising: a casing forming a chamber configured to contain ink; an ink supply port configured to supply ink in the chamber to an ink jet head, wherein the ink supply port is provided in a first surface of the casing which is opposed to a second surface of the casing; and a latch lever elastically deformable and having an engaging portion spaced from a third surface of the casing, the engaging portion engageable with a locking portion provided in the mounting portion wherein the substrate is provided adjacent the first and second surfaces and is located above the first surface, and wherein the light emergence portion is disposed at a position which is more remote from the first surface than the light incident portion and which is closer to the second surface of the casing than the light incident portion.

73. An ink container according to Claim 69, wherein the controller (a) receives, through the container contact from the apparatus contact, control data including the individual information and a light emitting command code, and (b) controls the light emission of the light emitting portion based on the individual information included in the received control data and the discrimination information.

74. An ink container according to Claim 73, wherein the controller causes the light emitting portion to emit the light when the individual information included in the received control data corresponds to the discrimination information.

75. An ink container according to Claim 69, wherein the light emitted from the light emitting portion includes visible light.

76. An ink container according to Claim 69, wherein the light emitting portion is an LED.

77. An ink container detachably mountable to a mounting portion of an ink jet printer, said ink container comprising: a casing forming a chamber configured to contain ink; an ink supply port provided in a first surface of the casing and configured to supply ink in the chamber to an ink jet head; a memory configured to store discrimination information of the ink container;

a container contact electrically connectable to an apparatus contact provided in the mounting portion; a light emitting portion; a controller configured to (a) receive, from the apparatus contact through the container contact, control data including a driving command code for driving the light emitting portion and including individual information corresponding to the ink container, and (b) control driving of the light emitting portion, based on the discrimination information stored in the memory and the individual information included in the received control data; a substrate provided at a neighborhood of the first surface and having the memory, the container contact, the light emitting portion and the controller; and a light guide member configured to receive light emitted from the light emitting portion driven by the controller and configured to guide the received light toward a second surface of the casing opposed to the first surface.

78. An ink container according to Claim 77, wherein the controller drives the light emitting portion when the individual information included in the control data corresponds to the discrimination information.

79. An ink container according to Claim 77, wherein the light emitted from the light emitting portion includes visible light.

80. An ink container according to Claim 77, wherein the light emitting portion is an LED.

81. An ink container detachably mountable to a mounting portion of an ink jet printer, said ink container comprising: a casing forming a chamber configured to contain ink; an ink supply port provided in a first surface of the casing and configured to supply ink in the chamber to an ink jet head; a memory configured to store discrimination information of the ink container; a container contact electrically connectable to an apparatus contact provided in the mounting portion; a light emitting portion provided at a neighborhood of the first surface; a controller configured to control light emission of the light emitting portion, based on the discrimination information stored in the memory and individual information corresponding to the ink container supplied through the container contact from the apparatus contact; and a light guide member configured to receive light emitted from the light emitting portion and configured to guide the received light toward a second surface of the casing opposed to the first surface.

82. An ink container according to Claim 81, wherein the light emitted

from the light emitting portion includes visible light.

83. An ink container detachably mountable to a main assembly, having an inkjet head, of an ink jet printer, said ink container comprising: a casing forming a chamber containing ink; an ink supply port provided in a first surface of the casing and configured to supply ink in the chamber to the inkjet head; a memory storing color information corresponding to a color of the ink in the chamber; an electrical contact electrically connectable to the main assembly; a light emitting portion; a controller configured to (a) receive control data including color information from the main assembly through the electrical contact, and (b) control light emission of the light emitting portion based on the color information stored in the memory and the color information in the received control data when the received control data includes a light emitting command code; and a light guide member configured to receive light emitted from the light emitting portion and configured to guide the received light toward a second surface of the casing opposed to the first surface.

84. An ink container according to Claim 83, wherein the light emitted from the light emitting portion includes visible light.

85. An ink container detachably mountable to a main assembly, having an inkjet head, of an ink jet printer, said ink container comprising: a casing forming a chamber containing ink; an ink supply port provided in a first surface of the casing and configured to supply ink in the chamber to the inkjet head; a memory storing discrimination information of the ink container; an electrical contact electrically connectable to the main assembly; a light emitting portion; a controller configured to (a) receive, from the main assembly through the electrical contact, light emitting control data including a light emitting command code, and (b) cause the light emitting portion to emit light when the received light emitting control data includes information corresponding to the discrimination information stored in the memory; and a light guide member configured to receive light emitted from the light emitting portion and configured to guide the received light toward a second surface of the casing opposed to the first surface.

86. An ink container according to Claim 85, wherein the light emitted from the light emitting portion includes visible light.

87. An ink container detachably mountable to a mounting portion of an

ink jet printer including an apparatus contact provided in the mounting portion and a light receptor configured to obtain light reception information used for discriminating properness of position of the ink container mounted in the mounting portion, said ink container comprising: a memory storing discrimination information of the ink container; a container contact electrically connectable to the apparatus contact provided in the mounting portion; a light emitting portion; a controller configured to (a) receive, from the apparatus contact through the electrical contact, light emitting control data including a light emitting code, and (b) cause the light emitting portion to emit light when the received light emitting control data includes information corresponding to the discrimination information stored in the memory; and a light guide member having a light incident portion into which the light emitted from the light emitting portion is entered and a light emergence portion, the light guide member configured to guide the light entered from the light incident portion to the light emergence portion so that the light emerged from the light emergence portion is capable of reaching the light receptor.

88. An ink container according to Claim 87, wherein the light emitted from the light emitting portion includes visible light.

89. An ink container detachably mountable to a mounting portion of an ink jet printer having an ink jet head, said ink container comprising: a casing defining an ink containing chamber; a first engaging portion engageable with a first locking portion provided in the mounting portion, said first engaging portion being disposed on a first side of said casing; a second engaging portion engageable with a second locking portion provided in the mounting portion; a supporting member supporting said second engaging portion and disposed on a second side of said casing which is opposite said first side, said supporting member elastically deformable toward the second side; a light emitting portion; an electrical contact electrically connectable with an apparatus contact provided in the mounting portion and capable of receiving a signal for actuating said light emitting portion from the apparatus contact; a display portion for directing the light emitted from said emitting portion to an outside of said ink container; and a supply port, provided in a third side of said casing, for supplying ink contained in the ink containing chamber to the ink jet head, wherein said electrical contact is disposed in a region of a corner portion between said second side and said third side, and wherein said display portion is disposed adjacent to an upper, in use, portion in said second side.

90. An ink container detachably mountable to a mounting portion of an ink jet printer having an ink jet head, said ink container comprising: a casing defining an ink containing chamber; a first engaging portion engageable with a first locking portion provided in the mounting portion, said first engaging portion being disposed on a first side of said casing; a second engaging portion engageable with a second locking portion provided in the mounting portion; a supporting member supporting said second engaging portion and disposed on a second side of said casing which is opposite said first side, said supporting member elastically deformable toward the second side; a light emitting portion; an electrical contact electrically connectable with an apparatus contact provided in the mounting portion; an information storing portion storing individual information of said ink container; a controller configured to control actuation of said light emitting portion based on the individual information stored in said information storing portion and information supplied through said electrical contact; a display portion for directing the light emitted from said emitting portion to an outside of said ink container; and a supply port, provided in a third side of said casing, for supplying ink contained in the ink containing chamber to the ink jet head, wherein said electrical contact is disposed in a region of a corner portion between said second side and said third side, and wherein said display portion is disposed adjacent to an upper, in use, portion in said second side.

What is claimed is:

1. An ink container detachably mountable to a mounting portion of an ink jet printer including an apparatus contact provided in the mounting portion and a light receptor configured to obtain light reception information used for discriminating properness of position of the ink container mounted in the mounting portion, said ink container comprising:

- a memory configured to store discrimination information of the ink container;
- a container contact electrically connectable to the apparatus contact provided in the mounting portion;
- a light emitting portion configured to emit light;
- a controller configured to control light emission of the light emitting portion, based on individual information corresponding to the ink container, supplied through the container contact from the apparatus contact, and the discrimination information stored in the memory; and
- a light guide member having a light incident portion into which the light emitted from the light emitting portion is entered and a light emergence portion, the light guide member configured to guide the light entered from the light incident portion to the light emergence portion so as to cause the light receptor to receive the light emerged from the light emergence portion.

2. An ink container according to claim 1, further comprising:

- a casing forming a chamber configured to contain ink;
- an ink supply port configured to supply ink in the chamber to an ink jet head, wherein the ink supply port is provided in a first surface of the casing which is opposed to a second surface of the casing; and
- wherein the light emitting portion is provided at a neighborhood of the first surface, and
- wherein the light emergence portion is disposed at a position which is more remote from the first surface than the light incident portion and which is closer the second surface of the casing than the light incident portion.

3. An ink container according to claim 1, further comprising a substrate provided with the light emitting portion, the container contact, the memory and the controller.

4. An ink container according to claim 3, further comprising:

- a casing forming a chamber configured to contain ink;

an ink supply port configured to supply ink in the chamber to an ink jet head, wherein the ink supply port is provided in a first surface of the casing which is opposed to a second surface of the casing; and
 a latch lever elastically deformable and having an engaging portion spaced from a third surface of the casing, the engaging portion engageable with a locking portion provided in the mounting portion
 wherein the substrate is provided adjacent the first and second surfaces and is located above the first surface, and
 wherein the light emergence portion is disposed at a position which is more remote from the first surface than the light incident portion and which is closer to the second surface of the casing than the light incident portion.

5. An ink container according to claim 1, wherein the controller (a) receives, through the container contact from the apparatus contact, control data including the individual information and a light emitting command code, and (b) controls the light emission of the light emitting portion based on the individual information included in the received control data and the discrimination information.

6. An ink container according to claim 5, wherein the controller causes the light emitting portion to emit the light when the individual information included in the received control data corresponds to the discrimination information.

7. An ink container according to claim 1, wherein the light emitted from the light emitting portion includes visible light.

8. An ink container according to claim 1, wherein the light emitting portion is an LED.

9. An ink container detachably mountable to a mounting portion of an ink jet printer, said ink container comprising:
 a casing forming a chamber configured to contain ink;
 an ink supply port provided in a first surface of the casing and configured to supply ink in the chamber to an ink jet head;
 a memory configured to store discrimination information of the ink container;
 a container contact electrically connectable to an apparatus contact provided in the mounting portion;

- a light emitting portion;
 - a controller configured to (a) receive, from the apparatus contact through the container contact, control data including a driving command code for driving the light emitting portion and including individual information corresponding to the ink container; and (b) control driving of the light emitting portion, based on the discrimination information stored in the memory and the individual information included in the received control data;
 - a substrate provided at a neighborhood of the first surface and having the memory, the container contact, the light emitting portion and the controller; and
 - a light guide member configured to receive light emitted from the light emitting portion driven by the controller and configured to guide the received light toward a second surface of the casing opposed to the first surface.
10. An ink container according to claim 9, wherein the controller drives the light emitting portion when the individual information included in the control data corresponds to the discrimination information.
11. An ink container according to claim 9, wherein the light emitted from the light emitting portion includes visible light.
12. An ink container according to claim 9, wherein the light emitting portion is an LED.
13. An ink container detachably mountable to a mounting portion of an ink jet printer, said ink container comprising:
- a casing forming a chamber configured to contain ink;
 - an ink supply port provided in a first surface of the casing and configured to supply ink in the chamber to an ink jet head;
 - a memory configured to store discrimination information of the ink container;
 - a container contact electrically connectable to an apparatus contact provided in the mounting portion;
 - a light emitting portion provided at a neighborhood of the first surface;

a controller configured to control light emission of the light emitting portion, based on the discrimination information stored in the memory and individual information corresponding to the ink container supplied through the container contact from the apparatus contact; and
a light guide member configured to receive light emitted from the light emitting portion and configured to guide the received light toward a second surface of the casing opposed to the first surface.

14. An ink container according to claim 13, wherein the light emitted from the light emitting portion includes visible light.

15. An ink container detachably mountable to a main assembly, having an inkjet head, of an ink jet printer, said ink container comprising:

a casing forming a chamber containing ink;
an ink supply port provided in a first surface of the casing and configured to supply ink in the chamber to the inkjet head;
a memory storing color information corresponding to a color of the ink in the chamber;
an electrical contact electrically connectable to the main assembly;
a light emitting portion;
a controller configured to (a) receive control data including color information from the main assembly through the electrical contact, and (b) control light emission of the light emitting portion based on the color information stored in the memory and the color information in the received control data when the received control data includes a light emitting command code; and
a light guide member configured to receive light emitted from the light emitting portion and configured to guide the received light toward a second surface of the casing opposed to the first surface.

16. An ink container according to claim 15, wherein the light emitted from the light emitting portion includes visible light.

17. An ink container detachably mountable to a main assembly, having an inkjet head, of an ink jet printer, said ink container comprising:

- a casing forming a chamber containing ink;
- an ink supply port provided in a first surface of the casing and configured to supply ink in the chamber to the inkjet head;
- a memory storing discrimination information of the ink container;
- an electrical contact electrically connectable to the main assembly;
- a light emitting portion;
- a controller configured to (a) receive, from the main assembly through the electrical contact, light emitting control data including a light emitting command code, and (b) cause the light emitting portion to emit light when the received light emitting control data includes information corresponding to the discrimination information stored in the memory; and
- a light guide member configured to receive light emitted from the light emitting portion and configured to guide the received light toward a second surface of the casing opposed to the first surface.

18. An ink container according to claim 17, wherein the light emitted from the light emitting portion includes visible light.

19. An ink container detachably mountable to a mounting portion of an ink jet printer including an apparatus contact provided in the mounting portion and a light receptor configured to obtain light reception information used for discriminating properness of position of the ink container mounted in the mounting portion, said ink container comprising:

- a memory storing discrimination information of the ink container;
- a container contact electrically connectable to the apparatus contact provided in the mounting portion;
- a light emitting portion;

- a controller configured to (a) receive, from the apparatus contact through the electrical contact, light emitting control data including a light emitting code, and (b) cause the light emitting portion to emit light when the received light emitting control data includes information corresponding to the discrimination information stored in the memory; and
 - a light guide member having a light incident portion into which the light emitted from the light emitting portion is entered and a light emergence portion, the light guide member configured to guide the light entered from the light incident portion to the light emergence portion so that the light emerged from the light emergence portion is capable of reaching the light receptor.
20. An ink container according to claim 19, wherein the light emitted from the light emitting portion includes visible light.
21. An ink container detachably mountable to a mounting portion of an ink jet printer having an ink jet head, said ink container comprising:
- a casing defining an ink containing chamber;
 - a first engaging portion engageable with a first locking portion provided in the mounting portion, said first engaging portion being disposed on a first side of said casing;
 - a second engaging portion engageable with a second locking portion provided in the mounting portion;
 - a supporting member supporting said second engaging portion and disposed on a second side of said casing which is opposite said first side, said supporting member elastically deformable toward the second side;
 - a light emitting portion;
 - an electrical contact electrically connectable with an apparatus contact provided in the mounting portion and capable of receiving a signal for actuating said light emitting portion from the apparatus contact;

a display portion for directing the light emitted from said emitting portion to an outside of said ink container; and
 a supply port, provided in a third side of said casing, for supplying ink contained in the ink containing chamber to the ink jet head,

wherein said electrical contact is disposed in a region of a corner portion between said second side and said third side, and

wherein said display portion is disposed adjacent to an upper, in use, portion in said second side.

22. An ink container detachably mountable to a mounting portion of an ink jet printer having an ink jet head, said ink container comprising:

a casing defining an ink containing chamber;

a first engaging portion engageable with a first locking portion provided in the mounting portion, said first engaging portion being disposed on a first side of said casing;

a second engaging portion engageable with a second locking portion provided in the mounting portion;

a supporting member supporting said second engaging portion and disposed on a second side of said casing which is opposite said first side, said supporting member elastically deformable toward the second side;

a light emitting portion;

an electrical contact electrically connectable with an apparatus contact provided in the mounting portion;

an information storing portion storing individual information of said ink container;

a controller configured to control actuation of said light emitting portion based on the individual information stored in said information storing portion and information supplied through said electrical contact;

a display portion for directing the light emitted from said emitting portion to an outside of said ink container; and
 a supply port, provided in a third side of said casing, for supplying ink contained in the ink containing chamber to the ink jet head,

wherein said electrical contact is disposed in a region of a corner portion between said second side and said third side, and

wherein said display portion is disposed adjacent to an upper, in use, portion in said second side.