

**APPARATUS AND METHOD USABLE WITH AN INJECTION MOLDER FOR
PRODUCING ARTICLES, IN PARTICULAR ORTHODONTIC BRACKETS**

ABSTRACT

An apparatus (12) usable with an injection molder (10) for producing articles, in particular orthodontic brackets, includes a first mold support (18, 20) including a first mold, and a second mold support (18, 20) including a second mold and a first die. The first mold support is movable relative to the second mold support between a first position and a second position. In the first position, the first mold and the second mold being brought together to form an injection molded article (14) include a body having at least one protrusion extending outwardly from the body and facing the second mold. In the second position, the first mold and the first die being brought together to subsequently form the article, the first die selectively subsequently forming an altered cross sectional region (64) in at least a portion of the protrusion, forming an undercut (70) in the altered cross sectional region (64) or between the altered cross sectional region (64) of the subsequently formed protrusion and the body.

FIG. 2