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(54) Title: PROCESS CARTRIDGE ELECTROPHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

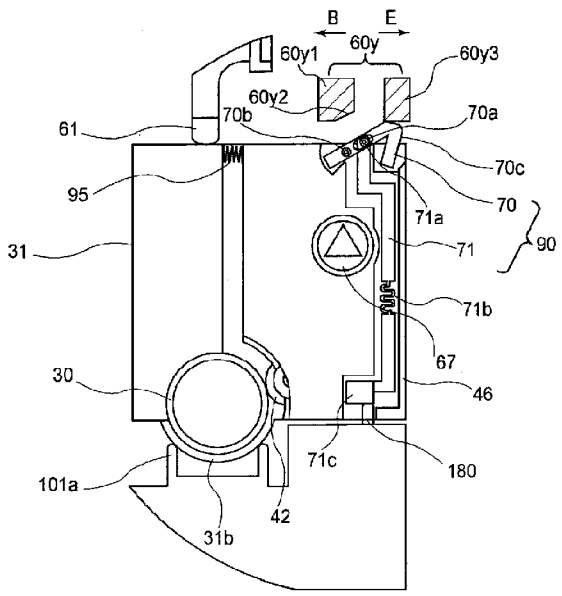

FIG.6

(57) Abstract: A process cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an electrophotographic image forming apparatus, includes an electrophotographic photosensitive drum; developing roller for developing an electrostatic latent image formed on the electrophotographic photosensitive drum; drum frame supporting the electrophotographic photosensitive drum; a developing frame supporting the developing roller, the developing frame is movable relative to the drum frame and is capable of taking a contacting position in which the developing roller is in contact with the electrophotographic photosensitive drum; and a force receiving device including a first force receiving portion for receiving a first external force and a second force receiving portion for receiving a second external force, wherein the second force receiving portion is movable relative to the developing frame, wherein the second force receiving portion is placed in a stand-by position retracted from an operating position by the first force receiving portion receiving the first external force, and is movable from the stand-by position to the operating position for moving the developing frame from the contacting position to the spacing position, wherein a distance through which the second force receiving portion moves from the stand-by position to the operating position is larger than a distance through which the first force receiving portion is moved by the first external force.

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AMENDED CLAIMS
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1. A process cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an electrophotographic image forming apparatus, comprising:

an electrophotographic photosensitive drum;

a developing roller for developing an electrostatic latent image formed on said electrophotographic photosensitive drum;

a drum frame supporting said electrophotographic photosensitive drum;

a developing frame supporting said developing roller, said developing frame is movable relative to said drum frame and is capable of taking a contacting position in which said developing roller is in contact with said electrophotographic photosensitive drum and a spacing position in which said developing roller is spaced from said electrophotographic photosensitive drum; and

a force receiving device including a first force receiving portion for receiving a first external force and a second force receiving portion for receiving a second external force, wherein said second force receiving portion is movable relative to said developing frame, wherein said second force receiving portion is placed in a stand-by position retracted from an operating position by said first force

receiving portion receiving the first external force, and is movable from the stand-by position to the operating position for moving said developing frame from the contacting position to the spacing position, wherein a distance through which said second force receiving portion moves from the stand-by position to the operating position is larger than a distance through which said first force receiving portion is moved by the first external force.

2. A process cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein said force receiving device includes a first lever member provided with said first force receiving portion, a rotatable gear member engaging with said first lever member, and a second lever member provided with said second force receiving portion and movable through engagement with said gear member.

3. A process cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein said force receiving device includes a lever member rotatable about a rotation axis, and is provided at one end portion with said first force receiving portion and is provided at the other end portion with said second force receiving portion.

4. A process cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein said first force receiving portion is provided

on said drum frame.

5. A process cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein said force receiving device is provided on said developing frame.

6. A process cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein said first force receiving portion contacts the main assembly of the apparatus and receives the first external force when said process cartridge is mounted to the main assembly of the apparatus.

7. A process cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein said second force receiving portion receives the second external force from a force applying means provided movably in the main assembly of the apparatus when said process cartridge is mounted to the main assembly of the apparatus.

8. A process cartridge according to Claim 6, wherein said first force receiving portion receives the first external force at a lower side of said process cartridge by contacting to said first force receiving portion.

9. A process cartridge according to Claim 1,

wherein said first force receiving portion is disposed below said second force receiving portion in the state in which said process cartridge is mounted in place in the main assembly of the apparatus.

10. A process cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein said process cartridge is detachably mountable to said main assembly of the apparatus through an opening provided in the main assembly of the electrophotographic image forming apparatus in a substantially horizontal direction crossing with an axial direction of said electrophotographic photosensitive drum.

11. A process cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein the main assembly of the apparatus includes a drawer member movable between an inside mounting position and a retracted position in which said process cartridge is mountable thereon.

12. A process cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein said force receiving member permits, in the stand-by position, said process cartridge to enter the main assembly of the apparatus, and is moved to the operating position from the stand-by position when said process cartridge is mounted to the main assembly of the apparatus.

13. A process cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein said drum frame and said developing frame rotatable relative to each other about a rotation axis, and said force receiving member is more remote from the rotation axis in the operating position than in the stand-by position.

14. A process cartridge according to Claim 7, wherein a moving distance of said second force receiving portion is larger than that of said first force receiving portion in a direction toward a force applying member.

15. A process cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein said drum frame supports rotatably said photosensitive drum by way of a covering member.

16. A process cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein said developing frame supports rotatably said developing roller by way of a bearing.

17. An electrophotographic image forming apparatus for forming an image on a recording material, said apparatus comprising:

(i) a movable force applying member;

(ii) a main assembly contact portion;

(iii) mounting means;

(iv) a process cartridge mounted demountably to said mounting means, said process cartridge including,

an electrophotographic photosensitive drum,

a developing roller for developing an electrostatic latent image formed on said electrophotographic photosensitive drum,

a drum frame supporting said electrophotographic photosensitive drum,

a developing frame supporting said developing roller, said developing frame is movable relative to said drum frame and is capable of taking a contacting position in which said developing roller is in contact with said electrophotographic photosensitive drum and a spacing position in which said developing roller is spaced from said electrophotographic photosensitive drum,

a force receiving device including a first force receiving portion for receiving a first external force when said process cartridge is mounted to the main assembly of the apparatus of said electrophotographic image forming apparatus, and a second force receiving portion for receiving a second external force when the force applying member moves, wherein said second force receiving portion is movable relative to said developing frame, wherein said second force receiving portion is placed in a stand-by

position retracted from an operating position by said first force receiving portion receiving the first external force, and is movable from the stand-by position to the operating position for moving said developing frame from the contacting position to the spacing position, wherein a distance through which said second force receiving portion moves from the stand-by position to the operating position is larger than a distance through which said first force receiving portion is moved by the first external force; and

(vi) feeding means for feeding the recording material.

18. An apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein said first force receiving portion receives the first external force at a lower side of said process cartridge by contacting to said first force receiving portion.

19. An apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein said process cartridge is detachably mountable to said main assembly of the apparatus through an opening provided in the main assembly of the electrophotographic image forming apparatus in a substantially horizontal direction crossing with an axial direction of said electrophotographic

photosensitive drum.

20. An apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein the main assembly of the apparatus includes a drawer member movable between an inside mounting position and a retracted position in which said process cartridge is mountable thereon.

21. An apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein said force receiving member permits, in the stand-by position, said process cartridge to enter the main assembly of the apparatus, and is moved to the operating position from the stand-by position when said process cartridge is mounted to the main assembly of the apparatus.

BRIEF STATEMENT UNDER ARTICLE 19(1)

Claims 1 and 17 are amended for clarification.