

US Patent & Trademark Office

Patent Public Search | Text View

United States Patent Application Publication

20250261741

Kind Code

A1

Publication Date

August 21, 2025

Inventor(s)

Bianco; Dorien

COSMETIC APPLICATOR WITH SEPARATELY FORMED SURFACE

Abstract

A cosmetic applicator for applying a cosmetic or care product includes an applicator member retained at a distal end of a stem. The applicator member comprising an applicator head including: a first part having a cavity which is not a through cavity, and a second part that is connected to the first part by a hinge and is at least partially engaged in the housing of the first part. The applicator head defines two opposite main faces and wherein one type of application elements are accessible for use on the first face and a second type of application elements are accessible for use on second face of the applicator head.

Inventors: Bianco; Dorien (Zejtun, MT)

Applicant: Toly Management Ltd. (Zejtun ZTN, MT)

Family ID: 1000008575270

Appl. No.: 19/197510

Filed: May 02, 2025

Foreign Application Priority Data

IN 201911020359

May. 22, 2019

Related U.S. Application Data

parent US division 16876959 20200518 parent-grant-document US 12310484 child US 19197510

Publication Classification

Int. Cl.: A45D40/26 (20060101); A45D33/00 (20060101); A45D34/04 (20060101); A46B9/02 (20060101)

U.S. Cl.:

CPC **A45D40/265** (20130101); **A45D33/00** (20130101); **A45D34/043** (20130101);
 A45D34/045 (20130101); **A45D34/046** (20130101); **A45D40/264** (20130101);
 A45D40/267 (20130101); A46B9/021 (20130101); A46B2200/1046 (20130101);
 A46B2200/1053 (20130101)

Background/Summary

[0001] This application is a Divisional of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 16/876,959, filed on May 18, 2020, which claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 to Indian Provisional Patent Application No. 201911020359, filed on May 22, 2019. The disclosure of each of these applications are incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND

Field

[0002] The present disclosure relates generally to a cosmetic applicator for applying a product including a cosmetic, care or pharmaceutical product, onto keratinous substrate such as skin, lips, under eyes, eyebrows, eyelids, cheeks, nails or any other part of the body. In particular, the disclosure relates to an applicator for cosmetic products with an applicator head that is formed in an interim configuration where different surface treatments can be applied to two spatially separated surfaces and that is folded into an assembled configuration where the two surfaces are brought together to form an applicator head with sides having distinct properties. According to one embodiment, one side of the applicator head can be formed with moulded application elements, for example, polymer tines, and the other side formed as a smooth surface covered with flocked fibers.

Description of the Related Art

[0003] Cosmetic applicators such as dip or wand applicators are known in the cosmetic industry. Cosmetic packages often include such applicators for dispensing a particular cosmetic contained in the package reservoir. The cosmetic applicator generally includes a stem with a cap at one end and an applicator head in the form of a brush, spatula or other applicator structure suitable for applying a cosmetic or a care product including viscous cosmetics, mascara, eye liner, lip gloss, hair color, wound care, skin care, under eye cosmetics, pharmaceutical and like products.

[0004] European Patent Application FR 2 976 162 discloses a device for treating human keratin materials, in particular the skin, comprising two parts that are fixed together in a removable manner and define two opposite faces of the applicator, making it possible to carry out different treatments. The first face makes it possible for example to apply a cosmetic product and the second face makes it possible to remove, clean off or absorb impurities.

[0005] European Patent Applications EP 1 726 235 and EP 0 792 602 disclose cosmetic product applicators that comprise a cavity for holding the product to be applied.

[0006] A flocked applicator comprising a housing that holds a foam impregnated with a cosmetic product is known from European Patent Application EP 0 839 472.

[0007] European Patent Application EP 1 070 467 discloses an applicator comprising a first part and a second part joined by a hinge and forming a line of teeth disposed alternatively on different side of a separation face.

[0008] U.S. Pat. No. 5,007,442 discloses a tong shape apparatus comprising an applicator brush and a comb applicator at the ends of two rods connected by a pivot with a spring action, the spring action forcing the rods to open in absence of external forces.

[0009] WO 2008/140152 discloses a curling mascara apparatus comprising an upper tong hinged at an end thereof to a lower tong so as to perform a clamping operation for curling the eyelashes.

[0010] French Patent Application FR 2 955 017 discloses an applicator comprising a succession of bristles on a first portion and additional application elements distinct from the bristles on a second portion that may be hinged to the first portion.

[0011] There is a need to further improve packaging and application devices and in particular to benefit from a device which is easy to produce and which makes it possible to obtain new treatment or makeup effects.

SUMMARY

[0012] According to an embodiment of the present disclosure, there is provided a cosmetic package comprising a cosmetic applicator for applying a product including a cosmetic or a care product or pharmaceutical product onto human skin or keratinous materials, such as, for example, hair, eyebrows, nails and/or eyelashes. The product includes viscous liquid, semisolid or powder product for application on skin of face, eyes etc.

[0013] According to an embodiment of the present disclosure, the cosmetic applicator comprises an applicator member comprising an applicator head having two opposite main faces, the applicator head comprising: [0014] a first part having at least one cavity, and [0015] a second part that is connected to the first part by a hinge and is at least partially and fixedly engaged in the cavity of the first part, [0016] wherein only the first part is visible from one of the two main faces and both the first and the second parts are visible from the opposite face of the applicator head.

[0017] By “fixedly engaged”, it should be understood that in an applicator according to the present disclosure, the second part of the applicator head remains engaged in the cavity of the first part and is not easily movable relative to the latter. No external force for example exerted by a user or by a collar of a container into which the applicator head is inserted is needed for maintaining the engagement.

[0018] According to an aspect of the present disclosure, the cosmetic package comprises a container for holding a product and the cosmetic applicator. The cosmetic applicator comprises an applicator member, a stem and a cap. The cap of the applicator has threads which can be screwed onto threads, formed on a neck of the container. A wiper may be provided in the neck of the receptacle for wiping off excess product from the cosmetic applicator.

[0019] In the present embodiment, the axis of the stem is rectilinear, but it could be curved in an alternate embodiment.

[0020] According to an aspect of the present disclosure, the applicator member is retained at a distal end of the stem for applying the product; and the cap at a proximal end of the stem.

[0021] The distal end of the stem includes an interior longitudinal opening or cavity for receiving a mounting end piece of the applicator member.

[0022] In the present embodiment, the applicator head extends along a longitudinal axis and is attached to an end piece. The latter is fanned by two half end pieces that are in contact with one another and connected together by the hinge.

[0023] Each of two half end pieces are connected to the first part and to the second part respectively of the applicator head. The end piece can be held in the stem by any means, in particular by adhesive bonding, force-fitting, stapling, screw-fastening, crimping or snap-fastening.

[0024] In present embodiment, the end piece is in the form of a cylinder of revolution in the case of mounting in a stem. The end piece can be realized in a different manner, in particular when it is intended to serve directly for gripping.

[0025] The disclosure affords new possibilities for producing the applicator member, with different surface states and/or different materials on the first and second parts. In particular, the disclosure makes it very easily possible for only one of the parts to be flocked, if so desired, or for them to be flocked differently. Such partial flocking, limited to one of the parts, also gives the applicator an attractive appearance.

[0026] According to an aspect of the present disclosure, the first part comprises a plurality of application elements such as tines on its outer surface, and the second part can be flocked. The

tines extend preferably perpendicularly relative to the longitudinal axis of the applicator head. In an alternate embodiment, the tines may extend at any other non-zero angle relative to the longitudinal axis of the applicator head. The plurality of application elements is adapted to convey and apply the cosmetic product.

[0027] In variant embodiment, the plurality of application elements on the first part may include projections, bristles, particles, ribs, grooves, discs, slits, cuts, holes, dimples, or other molded features that are suitable for combing and/or loading, transporting and applying cosmetic product such as, for example, mascara, eyeshadow etc.

[0028] In still other alternate embodiment, the plurality of application elements in form of tines or other molded features may be present on the outer surface of second part of the applicator head and the outer surface of the first part may be flocked.

[0029] According to an aspect of the present disclosure, the applicator member comprises two portions namely a first portion and a second portion. The first portion further comprises a first part of the applicator head and a first half end piece; and the second portion further comprises a second part of the applicator head and a second half end piece. The longitudinal axis of the applicator head extends along the longitudinal axis of the end piece. In alternate embodiment, the longitudinal axis of the applicator head forms an angle of preferably less than 45° , better still between 1° and 45° , with the longitudinal axis of the end piece.

[0030] Each of the two half end pieces preferably has a flat face, the latter coming into contact with one another over their entire surface area. In a variant embodiment, these faces may comprise one or more reliefs that cooperate, for example by snap-fastening.

[0031] In present embodiment, the hinge is a film hinge and is disposed at those ends of the two half end pieces that are away from the first and second parts of the applicator head. It allows the two parts and the two half end pieces to be molded in the open configuration in one piece and to be assembled by the second part and the half end piece being rotated about an axis of the hinge which is perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the end piece.

[0032] Further, the first and second parts can each be attached to a respective half end piece by way of a corresponding intermediate portion which widens in the direction of the associated part.

Preferably, the intermediate portions are symmetrical such that when they are folded one over the other, the applicator member has no discontinuities in its portion extending between the end piece and the applicator head.

[0033] In present embodiment, the first part of the applicator head comprises of a curved body forming a non-through cavity, for receiving the second part. The cavity is open only on an inner side and along an entire length of the curved body, such that the cavity has an open top end and an open bottom end. The cavity may be in the form of a trough formed by walls.

[0034] Further, in the assembled state, the applicator head defines two opposite main faces a first face and a second face.

[0035] In the assembled state, when the second part is received in the first part, the first part surrounds the second part in such a way that only an outer surface of the first part is visible on one side of the applicator head, thus forming a first face of the applicator head in front view of the applicator member, and the second face opposite to the first face of the applicator head comprises a combination of an outer surface of the second part and an outer surface of the first part of the applicator head in rear view of the applicator member. According to one embodiment, the walls forming the cavity or trough cover portions of the second part so that only the first part is visible on one side of the applicator head.

[0036] Further, one type of application elements, in present case tines are accessible for use on the first face of the applicator head and a second type of application elements, in present case flocked fibers are accessible for use on the second face of the applicator head.

[0037] In the present embodiment, the walls forming cavity have edges that are oblique with respect to the longitudinal axis of the applicator head. Therefore, in the assembled state, when the

second part is received in the first part, the outer surface of the first part meets the outer surface of the second part at an interface which is at a non-zero angle with respect to the longitudinal axis of the applicator head.

[0038] The cavity of the first part of the applicator head has a protrusion and the second part has a corresponding groove. The protrusion and groove form an interlocking structure. One or more such interlocking structures may be provided.

[0039] During assembly of the applicator member, the second part is folded over the first part to receive the second part in the first part.

[0040] According to one embodiment, during folding of the second part over the first part, the protrusion of the first part is snap-fastened into the groove of the second part and the protrusion of the first intermediate portion is snap-fastened into a corresponding groove in the second intermediate portion in order to keep the applicator member in the closed position.

[0041] In alternate embodiments, the second part can comprise a protrusion that is snap-fastened into a groove in the first part, or it is possible for the first and the second part not to have any groove for snap-fastening.

[0042] The two portions of the applicator member can be kept in place by the insertion of the applicator member into the longitudinal cavity of the stem. The two half end pieces are then clamped together.

[0043] According to an embodiment of the present disclosure, the cosmetic applicator may be fabricated from a material selected from a group consisting of plastic, metal, alloy, ceramic, stone, wood, rubber, sintered or porous material and/or combinations thereof.

[0044] The above and other objects, features and advantages of the present disclosure will become clear from the following description of the preferred embodiments when the same is read in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

[0045] Other objects, features, and advantages of the present disclosure will become clear from the following description of the preferred embodiments when the same is read in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

Description

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0046] A more complete appreciation of the present disclosure and many of the attendant advantages thereof will be readily obtained as the same becomes better understood by reference to the following detailed description when considered in connection with the accompanying drawings, wherein:

[0047] FIG. 1 shows a longitudinal sectional view of a cosmetic package comprising a cosmetic applicator, according to a first embodiment of the present disclosure;

[0048] FIG. 2 shows a left side view of an applicator member of the cosmetic applicator of FIG. 1;

[0049] FIG. 3 shows a right side view of the applicator member of FIG. 2;

[0050] FIG. 4 shows a front view of the applicator member of FIG. 2;

[0051] FIG. 5 shows a rear view of the applicator member of FIG. 2;

[0052] FIG. 6 shows a side view of the applicator member of FIG. 2 in an open state;

[0053] FIG. 7 shows a perspective view of the applicator member of FIG. 2 in an interim configuration; and

[0054] FIG. 8 shows a rear view of the applicator member of FIG. 2, with a flocked second part.

[0055] To facilitate understanding, identical reference numerals have been used, where possible, to designate identical elements that are common to the figures. It is to be noted, however, that the appended drawings illustrate only typical embodiments of this disclosure and are therefore not to be considered limiting of its scope, for the disclosure may admit to other equally effective

embodiments.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0056] Throughout this specification, the terms “comprise,” “comprises,” “comprising” and the like, shall consistently mean that a collection of objects is not limited to those objects specifically recited.

[0057] FIG. 1 illustrates a cosmetic package **10** comprising a container **20** containing a product (not shown) to be applied and an applicator **30** for taking up and applying the product contained in the container.

[0058] The applicator **30** comprises a stem **40** having a longitudinal axis X, bearing an applicator member **80** at its distal end **50**. The applicator member **80** comprising an applicator head **90**. As can be seen in FIGS. 2 to 5, the applicator head **90** comprises a first part **100** and a second part **120** that is engaged in the first part **100**, these two parts being connected together by a hinge **150**.

[0059] In the present embodiment, the axis X of the stem **40** is rectilinear, but it could be curved in an alternate embodiment.

[0060] Further as shown in FIG. 1, the container **20** comprises a neck **21** in its upper part and inserted in the neck **21** of the container **20** is a wiper **24** for wiping off excess product from the applicator **30**.

[0061] The stem **40** is provided at its proximal end **52** with a gripping element **54** that also forms a cap for leak tight closure of the container **20**. The cap **54** of the applicator **30** has threads **32** which can be screwed onto threads **22**, formed on a neck **21** of the container **20**.

[0062] The distal end **50** of the stem **40** includes an interior longitudinal space for receiving a mounting end piece **82** of the applicator member **80**.

[0063] The cosmetic applicator **30** may be used to apply the product (not shown) including a cosmetic or care product. The cosmetic or care product includes viscous cosmetics, mascara, eyebrow powder, lip gloss, hair color, skin care, under eye cosmetics, pharmaceutical and like products.

[0064] In the present embodiment and as seen in FIGS. 2-5, the applicator head **90** extends along a longitudinal axis A and is attached to an end piece **82**. The latter is fanned by two half end pieces **82a** and **82b** that are in contact with one another and connected together by the hinge **150**.

[0065] Each of two half end pieces **82a** and **82b** are connected to the first part **100** and to the second part **120**, respectively. The end piece **82** can be held in the stem **40** by any means, in particular by adhesive bonding, force-fitting, stapling, screw-fastening, crimping or snap-fastening.

[0066] In present embodiment, the end piece **82** is in the form of a cylinder of revolution in the case of mounting in a stem **40**. The end piece **82** can be realized in a different manner, in particular when it is intended to serve directly for gripping.

[0067] As seen in FIGS. 2-5, the first part **100** comprises a plurality of application elements such as tines **104** on its outer surface **102**, and the second part **120** can be flocked, as illustrated in FIG. 8. The tines **104** extend preferably perpendicularly relative to the longitudinal axis A of the applicator head **90**. In an alternate embodiment, the tines **104** may extend at any other non-zero angle relative to the longitudinal axis A of the applicator head **90**. The plurality of application elements is adapted to convey and apply the cosmetic product.

[0068] In variant embodiment, the plurality of application elements on the first part may include projections, bristles, particles, ribs, grooves, discs, slits, cuts, holes, dimples, or other molded features that are suitable for combing and/or loading, transporting and applying cosmetic product such as, for example, mascara, eyeshadow etc.

[0069] In still other alternate embodiment, the plurality of application elements in the form of tines or other molded features may be present on the outer surface **122** of the second part **120** of the applicator head **90** and the outer surface **102** of the first part **100** may be flocked.

[0070] In present embodiment and as shown in FIGS. 6-7, the applicator member **80** comprises two portions namely a first portion **80a** and a second portion **80b**. The first portion **80a** further

comprises a first part **100** of the applicator head **90** and a first half end piece **82a**; and the second portion **80b** further comprises a second part **120** of the applicator head **90** and a second half end piece **82b**. The longitudinal axis A of the applicator head **90** extends along the longitudinal axis Z of the end piece **82**. In alternate embodiment, the longitudinal axis A of the applicator head **90** forms an angle of preferably less than 45°, better still between 10 and 45°, with the longitudinal axis Z of the end piece **82**.

[0071] Each of the two half end pieces **82a** and **82b** preferably has a flat mating face **83a** and **83b**, the latter coming into contact with one another over their entire surface area. In a variant embodiment, these faces may comprise one or more reliefs that cooperate, for example by snap-fastening.

[0072] In present embodiment, the hinge **150** is a film hinge and is disposed at those ends **85a** and **85b** of the two half end pieces **82a** and **82b** that are away from the first and second parts **100** and **120**. It allows the two parts **100** and **120** and the two half end pieces **82a** and **82b** to be molded in the open configuration in one piece and to be assembled by the second part **120** and the half end piece **82b** being rotated about an axis Y of the hinge **150**, perpendicular to the longitudinal axis Z of the end piece **80**, as illustrated in FIGS. 6 to 7.

[0073] Further as illustrated in FIGS. 2-3 and 6-7, the first and second parts **100** and **120** can each be attached to a respective half end piece **82a** or **82b** by way of a corresponding intermediate portion **130a** or **130b** which widens in the direction of the associated part. Preferably, the intermediate portions **130a** and **130b** are symmetrical such that when they are folded one over the other, the applicator member **80** has no discontinuities in its portion extending between the end piece **82** and the applicator head **90**.

[0074] As shown in FIG. 7, the first part **100** comprises of a curved body **101** forming a non-through cavity **107**, for receiving the second part **120**. The cavity **107** is open only on an inner side and along an entire length of the curved body **101**, such that the cavity **107** has a distal open top end **108** at the distal end of the cavity and a proximal open bottom end **109** at the proximal end of the cavity. Curved body **101** is formed by walls **101a** and **101b** that define a trough open at both ends.

[0075] Further, in the assembled state, as seen in FIGS. 4 and 5, the applicator head **90** defines two opposite main applicator faces **92** and **94**.

[0076] In the assembled state, when the second part **120** is received in the first part **100**, the first part **100** surrounds the second part **120** in such a way that only an outer surface **102** of the first part **100** is visible on one side of the applicator head **90**, thus forming a first face **92**, as can be seen in front view illustrated in FIG. 4 and the opposite side of the applicator head **90** forming a second face **94** comprises a combination of an outer surface **122** of the second part **120** and an outer surface **102** of the first part **100** as can be seen in rear view illustrated in FIG. 5. Walls **101a**, **101b** of curved body **101** surround the second part and provide application surfaces that extend along the edges of the second part **120**.

[0077] Further, as seen in FIG. 4, one type of application elements, in present case tines **104** are accessible for use on the first face **92** of the applicator head **90**. These application elements may extend from walls **101a**, **101b**, providing additional surface area to hold and apply cosmetic product. As seen in FIG. 8, a second type of application elements, in present case flocked fibers **124** are accessible for use on the second face **94** of the applicator head **90**. Flocked fibers **124** may enable a user to smooth or blend cosmetic product that has been applied to the skin.

[0078] In the present embodiment, as seen in FIG. 7, the cavity **107** is oblique with respect to the longitudinal axis A of the applicator head **90**. That is, edges of walls **101a**, **101b** define an oblique angle with respect to the longitudinal axis. Outer surface **122** of second part **120** is shaped to mate against the edges of walls **101a**, **101b**. Therefore, in the assembled state, when the second part **120** is received in the first part **100**, the outer surface **102** of the first part **100** meets the outer surface **122** of the second part **120** at an interface **130** which is at a non-zero angle with respect to the

longitudinal axis A of the applicator head **90**, as can be seen in FIGS. 2 and 3.

[0079] As seen in FIGS. 6 and 7, the cavity **107** of the first part **100** has a protrusion **106** and the second part **120** has a corresponding groove **126**.

[0080] During assembly of the applicator member **80**, the second part **120** is folded over the first part **100** to receive the second part **120** in the cavity **107** of the first part **100**.

[0081] As illustrated in FIG. 1, during folding of the second part **120** over the first part **100**, the protrusion **106** of the first part **100** is snap-fastened into the groove **126** of the second part and a protrusion **84a** of the first intermediate portion **130** is snap-fastened into a corresponding groove **84b** in the second intermediate portion **130b** in order to keep the applicator member **80** in the closed position.

[0082] In alternate embodiments, the second part **120** can comprise a protrusion that is snap-fastened into a groove in the first part **100**, or it is possible for the first and the second part **100** and **120** not to have any groove for snap-fastening.

[0083] The two portions **80a** and **80b** can be kept in place by the insertion of the applicator member **80** into the longitudinal opening or cavity in the stem **40**. The two half end pieces **82a** and **82b** are then clamped together.

[0084] According to an embodiment of the present disclosure, the applicator member **80** may be fabricated from a material selected from a group consisting of plastic, metal, alloy, ceramic, stone, wood, rubber, sintered or porous material and/or combinations thereof.

[0085] A cosmetic applicator may be formed according to one embodiment of the disclosure as follows. A mold is prepared to form an assembly, such as the one illustrated in FIGS. 6 and 7. The mold is shaped so that the molded piece includes a first part **100** with application elements, such as tines **104**, and a second part **120**, which may have a smooth surface.

[0086] The assembly shown in FIGS. 6 and 7 is formed using such a mold by a process known in the art, for example, injection molding. The assembly may be formed from a material selected from thermoplastic materials; elastomers; thermoplastic elastomers; thermoplastic elastomer polyester such as HYTREL®, for example; nitrile rubber; silicone rubber; ethylene-propylene terpolymer rubber (EPDM); styrene-ethylene-butylene-styrene (SEBS); styrene-isoprene-styrene (SIS); polyurethane (PU); ethyl vinyl acetate (EVA); polyvinyl chloride (PVC); polyethylene (PE); polyethylene terephthalate (PET); polypropylene (PP), and the like.

[0087] According to one embodiment, flocking is applied to second part **120**. Briefly, the fibers for flocking which may be of any commonly used material, such as nylon, polyester or any natural fiber are applied with an adhesive, such as an epoxy, to the surface to be flocked.

[0088] The flocking finish to the surface of the applying member may be achieved by an appropriately chosen known technique, such as electrostatic flocking. Preferably, the flocking process takes place in an electrostatic field, which results in the proper orientation of the fibers.

[0089] Because first and second parts **100**, **120** are spatially distant from one another, processes can be applied to one part without effecting the other part. According to one embodiment, first part **100** is covered by a mask or other covering while second part **120** is flocked with fibers.

[0090] Once application elements **104**, **124** are provided on first and second parts **100**, **120**, first part and second part are brought together by flexing hinge **150**. Flat mating surfaces **83a**, **83b** are brought into contact. Protrusion **84a** of first intermediate portion **130a** fits into and engages with groove **84b** of second intermediate portion **130b**, for example, by a snap-fit connection. Likewise, protrusion **106** fits into and engages with groove **126**. Half end pieces **82a** and **82b** together form mounting end piece **82**. As shown in FIG. 8, molded application elements **104** of first part **100** are now adjacent to flocked surface **124** of second part **120**. Because the first and second parts **100**, **120** were physically separated while flocking is applied to the second part, no flocked fibers are applied to the first part. As shown in FIG. 1, mounting end piece **82** is fitted into a cavity at the distal end of stem **40**.

[0091] It will be understood that the foregoing is only illustrative of the principles of the disclosure,

and that various modifications can be made by those skilled in the art without departing from the scope and spirit of the disclosure. For example, the shapes and/or sizes of various components can be different from the shapes and sizes shown herein. As another example, the materials used for various components can be different from those mentioned specifically herein.

[0092] While the foregoing is directed to embodiments of the present disclosure, other and further embodiments of the disclosure may be devised without departing from the basic scope thereof, and the scope thereof is determined by the claims that follow.

[0093] Although, the present disclosure has been described with reference to exemplary embodiments, it is not limited thereto. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that numerous changes and modifications may be made to the preferred embodiments of the present disclosure and that such changes and modifications may be made without departing from the true spirit of the present disclosure. It is therefore intended that the appended claims be construed to cover all such equivalent variations as fall within the true spirit and scope of the present disclosure.

Claims

1. A method of forming a cosmetic applicator comprising: forming a molded component comprising: a first part having a first mating face and a first applicator face, wherein the first applicator face comprises first application elements and wherein the first mating face comprises a cavity formed by two walls extending in a direction away from the first applicator face; a second part having a second mating face and a second applicator face; and a hinge, wherein the hinge joins the first part to the second part, wherein, the first part, the hinge, and the second part are arranged along a longitudinal axis, and rotating the first and second parts about a hinge axis to move the first and second mating faces into contact one another, wherein the second part is received in the cavity with the second applicator face exposed in a direction opposite from the first applicator face.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising applying second application elements to the second applicator face.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein the step of applying occurs prior to the step of rotating.
4. The method of claim 3, wherein the second application elements are flocking fibers applied to the second applicator face.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein the first part is free of flocking fibers.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the first part comprises a first half end piece, wherein the second part comprises a second half end piece, and wherein rotation about the hinge axis moves the first and second end half pieces into contact to form a mounting end piece.
7. The method of claim 6, further comprising: providing a stem having an interior longitudinal space; and inserting the mounting end piece into the space.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein the first application elements are selected from one or more of tines, projections, bristles, particles, ribs, grooves, discs, slits, cuts, holes, and dimples.
9. The method of claim 1, wherein the first and second mating faces further comprise one or more interlocking structures and wherein the step of rotating further comprises engaging the interlocking structures to fix the first part with the second part.
10. The method of claim 9, wherein the one or more interlocking structures comprises a snap fit connection.
11. The method of claim 1, wherein the cavity extends along the longitudinal axis of the first part and wherein the cavity is open at a proximal end and a distal end.
12. The method of claim 1, wherein, the cavity comprises an open end longitudinally opposite from the hinge along the first part, wherein the second part comprises a distal end longitudinally opposite from the hinge along the second part, wherein, following the step of rotating about the hinge axis, the open end and the distal end of the second part form a distal tip of the applicator head.

- 13.** The method of claim 1, wherein the step of forming the molded component comprises injection molding a thermoplastic material.
- 14.** The method of claim 13, wherein the thermoplastic material is selected from an elastomer, a thermoplastic elastomer, a thermoplastic elastomer polyester, HYTREL®, nitrile rubber, silicone rubber, ethylene-propylene terpolymer rubber (EPDM), styrene-ethylene-butylene-styrene (SEBS), styrene-isoprene-styrene (SIS), polyurethane (PU), ethyl vinyl acetate (EVA), polyvinyl chloride (PVC), polyethylene (PE), polyethylene terephthalate (PET), and polypropylene (PP).
- 15.** A method of forming a cosmetic applicator comprising: forming a molded component comprising; a first part having a substantially flat first mating face, a first applicator face, and a non-through cavity formed by the first applicator face and two walls extending in a direction away from the first applicator face, the two walls extending at oblique angles with respect to a longitudinal axis, wherein the first applicator face comprises first application elements; a second part having a substantially flat second mating face, a received face, and a second applicator face, wherein the second applicator face comprises second application elements, and wherein the received face is opposite from the second applicator face; and a hinge having a hinge axis, wherein the hinge joins the first part to the second part and wherein the first part and the second part are separated from one another; and rotating the first and second parts about the hinge axis to move the first and second mating faces into contact with one another to form an applicator head arranged along the longitudinal axis and a connecting part for connection to a rod stem, wherein, the received face is received in the non-through cavity between the two walls, wherein the two walls surround the second part and provide application surfaces that extend along outside edges of the second part, wherein only an outer surface of the first part is visible from a first side of the applicator member and a combination of an outer surface of the first part including the application surfaces of the two walls and the first application elements and an outer surface of the second part are visible from a second side of the applicator member opposite the first side.
- 16.** The method of claim 15, further comprising a step of applying second application elements to the second applicator face.
- 17.** The method of claim 16, wherein the step of applying occurs prior to the step of rotating.
- 18.** The method of claim 16, wherein the second application elements are flocking fibers applied to the second applicator face.
- 19.** The method of claim 18, wherein the first part is free of flocking fibers.
-