In a third alternative, shown in FIG. **7**, the two conduits **94** are joined by a planar joining structure **96** that includes a pair of apertures **98** in close proximity to each other. Each aperture **98** is sized to hold a conduit **94** that has been pushed into it. Each conduit **94** may be separated from the joining structure **96** by pulling it from the aperture **98**. Alternatively, the joining structure **96** may be designed so that, once the conduit **94** is pushed into the aperture **98**, the conduit **94** cannot be pulled from the aperture **98**.

The second method is to cement or weld the conduits **14** together after being individually formed. Cementing can be used with both plastic and coated paper conduits **14**. If the conduits **14** are composed of plastic, they may be welded together such as by applying heat at the contact area **20** and "melting" the conduits **14** together. There are several advantages offered by joining the conduits **14** after they are formed. These include the ability to create small lots of specialized assemblages **10** and the ability to create shapes that cannot use created by molds.

In the third method, the assemblage **10** is formed as a single unit, where the conduits **14** are already joined together. Depending upon where along the conduits **14** they are joined, this may be a more practical approach than forming the conduits **14** and joining them later. The conduits **14** are preferably formed in a mold. Different molds can be made to create assemblages **10** with a varying numbers of conduits **14** joined at different locations along their outside surfaces **26**. In this way, special configurations of the conduits **14** can be made. Molding will work easily only with plastic conduits **10**; it is not practical for use with coated paper.

In one embodiment of this method, the conduits are joined at their outer surface, as shown in FIG. **1**. Alternatively, the conduits are joined in an overlapping manner, as shown in FIG. **8** where a portion **110** of one conduit **108** is inside the other conduit **106**.

In the fourth method, shown in FIGS. **9** and **10**, the two conduits are formed independently and raveled about each other to form a junction. In some cases, like that of FIG. **9**, the conduit **114** can be formed into their final shape and then twisted together. In other cases, like that of FIG. **10**, the conduits **116** are softened so that they can be bent, twisted or knotted together, and allowed to cool.

The present invention also contemplates that any combination of the above-described joining methods may be used simultaneously.

One or more of the conduits includes a check or one-way valve to prevent liquid from one receptacle from entering another receptacle. This may be useful when, for example, two inert liquids are designed to effervesce when mixed in the mouth, and it would be undesirable for them to mix in either receptacle. While the ideal is that the check valve prevent all of each liquid from entering the other receptacles, the present invention recognizes that this may not be practical if the product is to be made inexpensively. Consequently, the present invention also contemplates that the check valve can prevent most of each liquid from entering the other receptacles, while letting insignificant amounts through.

Any type of check valve that will operate within the conduit is contemplated by the present invention. Four valve designs are shown in FIGS. **11–14**. In all check valve designs, the normal position of the valve is closed, either by a spring force or directly or indirectly by gravity. Pressure from liquid being sucked up the conduit pushes the valve open against the spring force or gravity. As the pressure abates, the spring force, direct gravity, or indirect gravity from the weight of the liquid remaining in the conduit returns the valve to its closed position. FIG. **11** shows a check valve **120** with a single simple flap **122**. If the hinge **124** is stiff enough, it can act as a spring to hold the flat **122** closed. FIG. **12** shows a check valve **128** with dual simple flaps **130**. Like the previous valve, if the flap hinges **132** are stiff enough, they can act as springs to hold the flaps **130** closed. FIG. **13** shows a check valve **136** with a flap **138** and an annular seat **140** inside the conduit **142** with which the flap **138** forms a seal with the seat **140**. Again, the hinge **144** can be designed as a spring. FIG. **14** shows a check valve **148** with a ball **150** and seat **152**. The ball **150** moves between the seat **152** and a stop **154**. Gravity keeps the ball **150** against the seat **152** when there is no pressure from liquid.

Thus it has been shown and described a drinking assemblage which satisfies the objects set forth above.

Since certain changes may be made in the present disclosure without departing from the scope of the present invention, it is intended that all matter described in the foregoing specification or shown in the accompanying drawings, be interpreted in an illustrative and not in a limiting senses.

What is claimed is:

1. A drinking assemblage for enabling a person to ingest streams of potable or medicinal liquids simultaneously from a plurality of receptacles into a plurality of oral locations, said drinking assemblage comprising:

(a) a plurality of conduits, each having an ingress and an egress;

(b) each of said conduits being joined to at least one other of said conduits at a junction that lies between said ingress and said egress;

(c) said ingresses being adapted for communication respectively with said liquids within said plurality of receptacles;

(d) said egresses being adapted for communication respectively with said plurality of oral locations;

(e) said liquids being isolated from each other when in said conduits; and

(f) at least one of said conduits including a check valve to substantially prevent said liquid from flowing from said egress to said ingress.

2. The assemblage of claim **1** wherein said junction is located such that said egress is free to be separated from all other of said egresses to direct said liquids to said plurality of oral locations.

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