According to another embodiment, the method comprises transmitting the third input data when the crew interface device is in the cabin mode.

According to another embodiment, receiving and transmitting data is performed in a wireless mode.

In view of the above, according to an aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method for operating a passenger catering system by using a server, the server comprising a processor and a memory unit, the passenger catering system comprising: a portable crew interface device; a movable galley container for containing products ordered according to first input data; and an indoor positioning system for localizing the moveable galley container in a passenger transport vehicle, wherein the processor is connected to the memory unit and wherein the processor is configured to execute the following steps: receiving the first input data from a passenger interface device; comparing the first input data with stock data in a database stored in the memory unit; transmitting first output data to the portable crew interface device; wherein the first output data comprise data on available stock coinciding with the received first input data, activating a first transceiver located in the movable galley container upon receiving the first input data from the server, and transmitting and receiving location data of the moveable galley container determined by the indoor positioning system; comparing the location data for the galley container to the first input data to determine a location matching the first input data, and emitting, using the transceiver, a signal when the location matching the first input data is reached.

According to another aspect of the present invention, there is provided a computer program comprising instructions that, when loaded onto a memory unit of a server, allow a processor of the server to execute the method as described herein.

According to another aspect of the present invention, there is provided a passenger catering system for a passenger transport vehicle, the system comprising: a server comprising a processor and a memory unit, wherein the processor is connected to the memory unit and wherein a computer program as described herein is loaded onto the memory unit, wherein the server is arranged to receive first input data from a passenger interface device; a portable crew interface device used by a crew member to read out first output data; wherein the server compares the first input data with stock data in a database stored in the memory unit and the server transmits the first output

data to the crew interface device, which first output data comprise data on available stock coinciding with the received input data; a movable galley container for containing products ordered according to the first input data; an indoor positioning system for localizing the movable galley container in a passenger transport vehicle; a first transceiver that is activated upon receiving first input data from the server and is used to transmit and receive location data of the movable galley container determined by the indoor positioning system, wherein the location data for the galley container are compared to the first input data to determine a location matching the first input data and wherein the first transceiver emits a signal when the location matching the first input data is reached.

According to yet another aspect of the present invention, there is provided a galley container for a passenger catering system as described herein.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The features and advantages of the invention will be further appreciated upon reference to the drawing of an embodiment of the passenger system.

DESCRIPTION OF ILLUSTRATIVE EMBODIMENTS

The figure shows a schematic drawing of an example of the passenger catering system 1 according to the invention. The passenger catering system 1 is used on a passenger transport vehicle (not shown), such as an aircraft. The passenger catering system 1 comprises a server 2 comprising a processor 13 and a memory unit 14 that are connected to each other. The server 2 is arranged to receive input data 4, 8, 8’ and transmit output data 6, 7. The passenger catering system 1 furthermore comprises a crew interface device 5, such as a tablet. A galley container 10 is stored in a galley 9, which galley container 10 comprises stock for catering passengers on board of the aircraft. A moveable galley container or trolley 10 is used to for serving in a passenger cabin (not shown).

First input data 4 are received by the processor13 after transmittal from a passenger interface device 3. The processor 13 compares the first input data 4 with stock data (not shown) in a database stored in the memory unit 14. First output data 6 are then transmitted to the crew interface device 5, where a crew member can see the first output data 6 on a display of the device.

The first input data 4 comprises data on an ordered product and the time when the product to be served, but also metadata on the flight plan, the passenger seat, flight number, etc. The first input data 4 generate a reservation of the related product in the database of the server, such that no further first input data 4 can be linked to the

CLAIMS

1. Method for operating a passenger catering system by using a server, the server comprising a processor and a memory unit, the passenger catering system comprising:

- a portable crew interface device;
- a movable galley container for containing products ordered according to first input data; and
- an indoor positioning system for localizing the moveable galley container in a passenger transport vehicle,

wherein the processor is connected to the memory unit and wherein the processor is configured to execute the following steps:

- receiving the first input data from a passenger interface device;
- comparing the first input data with stock data in a database stored in the memory unit;
- transmitting first output data to the portable crew interface device;

wherein the first output data comprise data on available stock coinciding with the received first input data,

- activating a first transceiver located in the movable galley container upon receiving the first input data from the server, and transmitting and receiving location data of the moveable galley container determined by the indoor positioning system;
- comparing the location data for the galley container to the first input data to determine a location matching the first input data, and emitting, using the transceiver, a signal when the location matching the first input data is reached.

2. Method according to claim 1, wherein before the step of receiving the first input data, the method comprises transmitting the stock data to the passenger interface device.

3. Method according to claim 1 or 2, further comprising: switching the crew interface device from a galley mode when the crew interface device is located at a galley of the passenger transport vehicle to a cabin mode when the crew interface device is located at a passenger cabin of the passenger transport device and vice versa after receiving a localization signal from an indoor positioning system for localizing the crew interface device.

4. Method according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the first input data comprise an order of a product from the stock and the method comprises, after receiving the first input

data, making a reservation in the stock data for the product, and updating the database accordingly.

5. Method according to claim 4, comprising:

- receiving second input data from the passenger interface device for cancelling the order of the product;

- cancelling the reservation of the product after receipt of the second input data; and

- updating the database accordingly.

6. Method according to any of the preceding claims, comprising transmitting second output data to the passenger interface device, wherein the second output data comprise the stock data on available stock.

7. Method according to any of the preceding claims, comprising receiving third input data from a galley containing the stock, wherein the third input data comprises data on the stock, the method further comprising updating the stock data in the database to the stock in the galley.

8. Method according to claim 6 or claim 7 when dependent on claim 6, comprising transmitting the second output data to the passenger interface device after receiving the third input data from the galley, wherein the second output data comprises data on the stock in the galley.

9. Computer program comprising instructions that, when loaded onto a memory unit of a server, allow a processor of the server to execute the method according to any of claims 1-8.

10. Passenger catering system for a passenger transport vehicle, the system comprising:

- a server comprising a processor and a memory unit, wherein the processor is connected to the memory unit and wherein a computer program according to claim 16 is loaded onto the memory unit, wherein the server is arranged to receive first input data from a passenger interface device;

- a portable crew interface device used by a crew member to read out first output data; wherein the server compares the first input data with stock data in a database stored in the memory unit and the server transmits the first output data to the crew interface device, which first output data comprise data on available stock coinciding with the received input data;

- a movable galley container for containing products ordered according to the first input data;

- an indoor positioning system for localizing the movable galley container in a passenger transport vehicle;
- a first transceiver that is activated upon receiving first input data from the server and is used to transmit and receive location data of the movable galley container determined by the indoor positioning system,

wherein the location data for the galley container are compared to the first input data to determine a location matching the first input data and wherein the first transceiver emits a signal when the location matching the first input data is reached.

11. Passenger catering system according to claim 10, wherein the crew interface device is configured to switch from a galley mode when the crew interface device is located at a galley of the passenger transport vehicle, to a cabin mode when the crew interface device is located at a passenger cabin of the passenger transport device, and vice versa, after receiving a localization signal from an indoor positioning system for localizing the crew interface device.

12. Passenger catering system according to claim 10 or 11, wherein the first input data comprises a product order from the stock in the moveable galley container and a reservation of the product is made in the database after receipt of the first input data.

13. Passenger catering system according to any of claims 10-12, comprising a data connection between the crew interface device and the moveable galley container for exchanging data.

14. Passenger catering system according to claim 11, wherein the galley comprises a first docking station for stationing the crew interface device, wherein when stationing the crew interface device in the first docking station the crew interface is in a galley mode.

15. Passenger catering system according to any of claims 11 or 14, wherein the moveable galley container comprises a second docking station for stationing the crew interface device, wherein when stationing the crew interface device in the second docking station the crew interface is in a cabin mode.

16. Passenger catering system according to any one of claims 10-15, wherein the tray is positioned within the moveable galley container according to the matching input data from the server.

17. Passenger catering system according to any of the claims 10-16, wherein the passenger transport vehicle is an aircraft.

18. Passenger catering system according to any of the claims 10-17, wherein the passenger interface device is located at a central travel hub.

19. Passenger catering system according to any of the claims 10-17, wherein the passenger interface device is an integral part of an onboard entertainment system.

20. Galley container for a passenger catering system according to any of claims 10-19.