

CLAIMS

1. A system for transporting luggage, the system comprising:

- a central luggage storage facility,
- 5 - a plurality of luggage outlets configured to receive pieces of luggage from the central luggage storage facility,
- a plurality of luggage carts configured to receive luggage from the outlets and deliver the luggage to an airplane, each luggage cart being configured to:
 - move to any of the outlets and
 - receive luggage from the outlet,
- 10 - a controller configured to:
 - identify an outlet and a plurality of pieces of luggage in the central facility,
 - control the central facility to feed the identified luggage to the identified outlet,
 - 15 - output information to the effect that one of the plurality of carts should move to the identified outlet and receive the identified luggage and
 - control the output to feed the received, identified luggage to the one of the plurality of carts.
- 20 2. A system according to claim 1, wherein each luggage cart is configured to output a signal when able to receive luggage, and wherein the controller configured to receive the signal from one of the plurality of carts and then perform the identifying and controlling steps.
- 3. A system according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the carts are autonomous.

4. A system according to any of claims 1-3, wherein the controller is further configured to output information to the cart having received the identified luggage, relating to an unloading position to move to.
5. A system according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the controller is configured to divide pieces of luggage in the central storage facility into fractions of luggage and identify pieces of luggage of a single fraction of luggage.
6. A system according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the processor is configured to have the identifying and controlling steps performed, before the one cart of the plurality of carts arrives at the identified outlet.
- 10 7. A system according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the processor is configured to have the identifying and controlling steps performed, so that the identified luggage arrives at the identified outlet no more than 180 seconds before the one cart of the plurality of carts arrives at the identified outlet.
- 15 8. A system according to any of the preceding claims, further comprising one or more airplanes, where the controller is configured to determine when the airplane is able to receive luggage, the processor being configured to subsequently perform the identifying and controlling steps.
9. A method of transporting luggage to an airplane, the method comprising:
- 20 - storing a plurality of pieces of luggage in a central luggage storage facility having a plurality of luggage outlets,
- providing a plurality of luggage carts each configured to receive luggage from the outlets and deliver the luggage to an airplane, each luggage cart being configured to:
- move to any of the outlets, and
- receive luggage from the outlet,
- 25 - identifying an outlet and a plurality of pieces of luggage in the central facility,
- controlling the central facility to feed the identified luggage to the identified outlet, and

- output information to the effect that one of the plurality of carts should move to the identified outlet and receive the identified luggage.

10. A method according to claim 9, further comprising the step of a luggage cart outputting a signal when able to receive luggage, and wherein the identifying and controlling steps are performed subsequent to the outputting of a signal.

11. A method according to claim 9, further comprising the step of outputting information to the cart having received the identified luggage to move to a predetermined position.

12. A method according to claim 9, wherein the outputting step comprises instructing the cart to autonomously move to the predetermined position.

10 13. A method according to any of claims 9-12, further comprising the step of dividing luggage in the central storage facility into fractions of luggage, wherein the identifying step comprises identifying luggage of a single fraction of luggage.

14. A method according to any of claims 9-13, wherein the identifying and controlling steps are performed, before the one cart of the plurality of carts arrives at the identified outlet.

15 15. A method according to any of claims 9-14, wherein the identifying and controlling steps are performed, so that the identified luggage arrives at the identified outlet no more than 180 seconds before the one cart of the plurality of carts arrives at the identified outlet.