We claim:

1. An elevation conveyance system for transporting a payload substantially vertically and transversely to a preselected release location, the system comprising:

a track assembly comprising a substantially vertical track;

at least one bin assembly in which the payload is receivable;

at least one car assembly configured for movement along the track, said at least one car assembly comprising:

a housing subassembly comprising a means for engaging the track to permit movement of said at least one car assembly along the track;

a conveyor subassembly for transporting the payload substantially transversely relative to the track; and

said at least one bin assembly being receivable in the housing subassembly and configured to release the payload onto the conveyor subassembly for substantially transverse transportation of the payload to the preselected release location;

said at least one bin assembly comprising a container in which the payload is receivable, the container comprising an opening at a bottom end thereof coverable by a movable gate movable between an open position, where the opening is at least partially unobstructed by the gate to permit the payload to exit the container under the influence of gravity through the opening, and a closed position, where the opening is substantially obstructed by the gate; and

said at least one bin assembly additionally comprising a base pallet comprising:

a plate comprising an aperture at least partially alignable with the opening in the container, when the container is positioned on the base pallet; and

a gate control device for moving the gate between the closed and open positions.

2. The elevation conveyance system according to claim 1 additionally comprising a transfer assembly for moving said at least one bin assembly at least partially into the housing subassembly.

3. The elevation conveyance system according to claim 2 in which the transfer assembly is configured for moving said at least one bin assembly at least partially out of the housing subassembly.

4. The elevation conveyance system according to claim 2 in which the transfer assembly comprises:

at least one carriage subassembly;

a carriage track on which said at least one carriage subassembly is movable, for movement of said at least one carriage subassembly between a loading position, in which said at least one carriage subassembly is located to at least partially move said at least one bin assembly into the housing subassembly, and an unloading position, in which said at least one carriage subassembly is located to at least partially move said at least one bin assembly out of the housing subassembly.

5. The elevation conveyance system according to claim 4 in which the transfer assembly comprises a frame on which said at least one carriage subassembly is mounted, and said

at least one carriage subassembly comprises at least one transfer device engageable with said at least one bin assembly and configured to move said at least one bin assembly relative to said at least one frame when said at least one bin assembly is engaged by said at least one transfer device, upon activation of said at least one transfer device.

6. The elevation conveyance system according to claim 5 in which said at least one transfer device comprises a roller conveyor.

7. The elevation conveyance system according to claim 4 in which said at least one carriage subassembly comprises at least one load cell, for weighing said at least one bin assembly when said at least one bin assembly is positioned on said at least one carriage subassembly.

8. The elevation conveyance system according to claim 1 in which the base pallet additionally comprises a funnel formed to direct the payload into the aperture.

9. The elevation conveyance system according to claim 1 in which the base pallet comprises at least one receptacle guide element with which at least a part of the container is engageable, for locating the container in a predetermined position on the base pallet.

10. The elevation conveyance system according to claim 1 in which the gate control device comprises an engagement element engageable with the gate when the container is positioned on the base pallet, to move the gate between the open and the closed positions thereof.

11. The elevation conveyance system according to claim 10 in which the gate control device additionally comprises a gate movement subassembly activatable to move the engagement element between a first position thereof, in which the gate is located in the open position, and a second position thereof, in which the gate is located in the closed position thereof.

12. The elevation conveyance system according to claim 11 in which the gate movement subassembly is activatable by an activating element.

13. The elevation conveyance system according to claim 12 in which the activating element comprises at least one foot pedal configured for activation of the gate movement subassembly by downward pressure on said at least one foot pedal.

14. An elevation conveyance system for transporting a payload substantially vertically and transversely to a preselected release location, the system comprising:

a track assembly comprising a substantially vertical track;

at least one bin assembly in which the payload is receivable;

at least one car assembly configured for movement along the track, said at least one car assembly comprising:

a housing subassembly comprising a track engagement mechanism including an arm projecting outwardly from the housing subassembly for engaging the track to permit movement of said at least one car assembly along the track;

a conveyor subassembly for transporting the payload substantially transversely relative to the track; and

said at least one bin assembly being receivable in the housing subassembly and configured to release the payload onto the conveyor subassembly for substantially transverse transportation of the payload to the preselected release location;

said at least one bin assembly comprising a container in which the payload is receivable, the container comprising an opening at a bottom end thereof coverable by a movable gate movable between an open position, where the opening is at least partially unobstructed by the gate to permit the payload to exit the container under the influence of gravity through the opening, and a closed position, where the opening is substantially obstructed by the gate; and

said at least one bin assembly further comprising a base pallet comprising:

a plate comprising an aperture at least partially alignable with the opening in the container, when the container is positioned on the base pallet; and

a gate control device for moving the gate between the closed and open positions.

15. The elevation conveyance system according to claim 14 additionally comprising a transfer assembly for moving said at least one bin assembly at least partially into the housing subassembly.

16. The elevation conveyance system according to claim 15 in which the transfer assembly is configured for moving said at least one bin assembly at least partially out of the housing subassembly.

17. The elevation conveyance system according to claim 15 in which the transfer assembly comprises:

at least one carriage subassembly;

a carriage track on which said at least one carriage subassembly is movable, for movement of said at least one carriage subassembly between a loading position, in which said at least one carriage subassembly is located to at least partially move said at least one bin assembly into the housing subassembly, and an unloading position, in which said at least one carriage subassembly is located to at least partially move said at least one bin assembly out of the housing subassembly.

18. The elevation conveyance system according to claim 17 in which the transfer assembly comprises a frame on which said at least one carriage subassembly is mounted, and said at least one carriage subassembly comprises at least one transfer device engageable with said at least one bin assembly and configured to move said at least one bin assembly relative to said at least one frame when said at least one bin assembly is engaged by said at least one transfer device, upon activation of said at least one transfer device.

19. The elevation conveyance system according to claim 18 in which said at least one transfer device comprises a roller conveyor.

20. The elevation conveyance system according to claim 17 in which said at least one carriage subassembly comprises at least one load cell, for weighing said at least one bin assembly when said at least one bin assembly is positioned on said at least one carriage subassembly.