WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system for operating a container lock mechanism, the system comprising:

a housing;

at least two lock members, the two lock members comprising a first lock member configured to engage a first portion of a container and a second lock member configured to engage a second portion of the container to mount the container lock mechanism outside of the container and lock at least one container door in a closed position;

a latching mechanism coupled to the first and second lock members;

a lock circuit at least partially enclosed within the housing, the lock circuit comprising:

a first memory,

a wireless module configured to receive a wireless signal; and

a lock controller coupled to the first memory, the wireless module and the latching mechanism and configured to receive commands related to operation of the lock mechanism, at least a portion of the commands being part of the wireless signal, to cause the latching mechanism to resist having the first and second lock members be disengaged from the first and second portions of the container when the first and second lock members are engaged to the first and second portions of the container, thereby locking the at least one container door in response to the received commands; and

a battery coupled to the lock circuit and configured to provide electrical power to at least a portion of the lock circuit.

2. The system for operating the container lock mechanism of claim 1, wherein the lock circuit further comprises an inductive power supply coupled to the lock circuit, wherein the inductive power supply receives a wakeup command wirelessly from a wireless device and provides power to the lock circuit to wakeup the lock circuit.

3. The system for operating the container lock mechanism of claim 2, wherein the wireless module receives a wireless data signal, the data signal containing information relevant to contents of the container, wherein the inductive power supply receives the wakeup command from a source within the container.

4. The system for operating the container lock mechanism of claim 3, wherein the data signal is received from a sensor module in the container and, in response to receiving the data signal, the wireless module stores the received information in a second memory, different from the first memory.

5. The system for operating the container lock mechanism of claim 2, wherein the wireless module receives a wireless data signal from the wireless device and, in response to receiving the data signal, the wireless module wakes up the lock controller.

6. The system for operating the container lock mechanism of claim 3, wherein the housing comprises a sealed unit without wired interfaces to any of the lock circuit when sealed.

7. The system for operating the container lock mechanism of claim 2, wherein the lock circuit further comprises:

a second memory configured to store information relevant to the container; and

another wireless module coupled to the inductive power supply and configured to be powered by the inductive power supply to transmit a wireless data signal, the data signal containing at least some of the stored information relevant to the container.

8. The system for operating the container lock mechanism of claim 1, further comprising a drive mechanism configured to cause at least one of the first or second lock members to engage the first or second portions of the container.

9. The system for operating the container lock mechanism of claim 1, wherein the first portion of the container is a first bar, and the second portion of the container is a second bar.

10. The system for operating the container lock mechanism of claim 1, wherein the housing is user detachable from the container.

11. A method of operating a container lock mechanism, the container lock mechanism comprising a housing, at least two lock members comprising a first lock member configured to engage a first portion of a container and a second lock member configured to

engage a second portion of the container to mount the container lock mechanism outside of the container and to lock at least one container door in a closed position, a latching mechanism coupled to the first and second lock members, a lock circuit at least partially enclosed within the housing, a wireless module and a battery, the method comprising:

receiving a wireless signal with the wireless module;

receiving commands related to operation of the lock mechanism at a lock controller of the lock circuit, at least a portion of commands being received in the wireless signal;

in response to the received commands, the lock controller causing the latching mechanism to resist having the first and second lock members be disengaged from the first and second portions of the container when the first and second lock member are engaged to the first and second portions of the container, thereby locking the at least one container door; and

providing electrical power to at least a portion of the lock circuit from the battery.

12. The method of operating the container lock mechanism of claim 11, the method further comprising:

receiving a wakeup command wirelessly from a wireless device with an inductive power supply of the lock circuit;

the inductive power supply providing power to the lock circuit to wakeup the lock circuit in response to receiving the wakeup command.

13. The method of operating the container lock mechanism of claim 12, further comprising:

receiving a wireless data signal with the wireless module, the data signal containing information relevant to contents of the container; and

wherein the inductive power supply receives the wakeup command from a source within the container.

14. The method of operating the container lock mechanism of claim 13, wherein the data signal is received from a sensor module in the container, the method further comprising:

in response to receiving the data signal, storing the received information in a non-volatile memory of the lock circuit.

15. The method of operating the container lock mechanism of claim 12, further comprising:

the wireless module receiving a wireless data signal from a wireless device; and

in response to receiving the data signal, waking up the lock controller with the wireless module.

16. The method of operating the container lock mechanism of claim 12, wherein the lock circuit further comprises non-volatile memory storing information relevant to the container, the method further comprising:

transmitting a wireless data signal with the wireless module, the wireless data signal containing at least some of the stored information relevant to the container.

Claims

1. A system for operating a container lock mechanism, the system comprising:

a housing;

at least two lock members, the two lock members comprising a first lock member configured to engage a first portion of a container and a second lock member configured to engage a second portion of the container to mount the container lock mechanism outside of the container and lock at least one container door in a closed position;

a latching mechanism attached to the first and second lock members;

a lock circuit at least partially enclosed within the housing, the lock circuit comprising:

a first memory,

a wireless module configured to receive a wireless signal; and

a lock controller coupled to the first memory, the wireless module and the latching mechanism and configured to receive commands related to operation of the lock mechanism, at least a portion of the commands being part of the wireless signal, to cause the latching mechanism to resist having the first and second lock members be disengaged from the first and second portions of the container when the first and second lock members are engaged to the first and second portions of the container, thereby locking the at least one container door in response to the received commands; and

a battery coupled to the lock circuit and configured to provide electrical power to at least a portion of the lock circuit, wherein the latching mechanism remains attached to the first and second lock members while the first and second lock members are being engaged to or being disengaged from the first and second lock members.

2. The system for operating the container lock mechanism of claim 1, wherein the lock circuit further comprises an inductive power supply coupled to the lock circuit, wherein the inductive power supply receives a wakeup command wirelessly from a wireless device and provides power to the lock circuit to wakeup the lock circuit.

3. The system for operating the container lock mechanism of claim 2, wherein the wireless module receives a wireless data signal, the data signal containing information relevant

to contents of the container, wherein the inductive power supply receives the wakeup command from a source within the container.

4. The system for operating the container lock mechanism of claim 3, wherein the data signal is received from a sensor module in the container and, in response to receiving the data signal, the wireless module stores the received information in a second memory, different from the first memory.

5. The system for operating the container lock mechanism of claim 2, wherein the wireless module receives a wireless data signal from the wireless device and, in response to receiving the data signal, the wireless module wakes up the lock controller.

6. The system for operating the container lock mechanism of claim 3, wherein the housing comprises a sealed unit without wired interfaces to any of the lock circuit when sealed.

7. The system for operating the container lock mechanism of claim 2, wherein the lock circuit further comprises:

a second memory configured to store information relevant to the container; and

another wireless module coupled to the inductive power supply and configured to be powered by the inductive power supply to transmit a wireless data signal, the data signal containing at least some of the stored information relevant to the container.

8. The system for operating the container lock mechanism of claim 1, further comprising a drive mechanism configured to cause at least one of the first or second lock members to engage the first or second portions of the container.

9. The system for operating the container lock mechanism of claim 1, wherein the first portion of the container is a first bar, and the second portion of the container is a second bar.

10. The system for operating the container lock mechanism of claim 1, wherein the housing is user detachable from the container.

11. A method of operating a container lock mechanism, the container lock mechanism comprising a housing, at least two lock members comprising a first lock member configured to engage a first portion of a container and a second lock member configured to engage a second portion of the container to mount the container lock mechanism outside of the container and to lock at least one container door in a closed position, a latching mechanism attached to the first and second lock members, a lock circuit at least partially enclosed within the housing, a wireless module and a battery, the method comprising:

receiving a wireless signal with the wireless module;

receiving commands related to operation of the lock mechanism at a lock controller of the lock circuit, at least a portion of commands being received in the wireless signal;

in response to the received commands, the lock controller causing the latching mechanism to resist having the first and second lock members be disengaged from the first and second portions of the container when the first and second lock member are engaged to the first and second portions of the container, thereby locking the at least one container door; and

providing electrical power to at least a portion of the lock circuit from the battery,

wherein the latching mechanism remains attached to the first and second lock members while the first and second lock members are being engaged to or being disengaged from the first and second lock members.

12. The method of operating the container lock mechanism of claim 11, the method further comprising:

receiving a wakeup command wirelessly from a wireless device with an inductive power supply of the lock circuit;

the inductive power supply providing power to the lock circuit to wakeup the lock circuit in response to receiving the wakeup command.

13. The method of operating the container lock mechanism of claim 12, further comprising:

receiving a wireless data signal with the wireless module, the data signal containing information relevant to contents of the container; and

wherein the inductive power supply receives the wakeup command from a source within the container.

14. The method of operating the container lock mechanism of claim 13, wherein the data signal is received from a sensor module in the container, the method further comprising:

in response to receiving the data signal, storing the received information in a non-volatile memory of the lock circuit.

15. The method of operating the container lock mechanism of claim 12, further comprising:

the wireless module receiving a wireless data signal from a wireless device; and

in response to receiving the data signal, waking up the lock controller with the wireless module.

16. The method of operating the container lock mechanism of claim 12, wherein the lock circuit further comprises non-volatile memory storing information relevant to the container, the method further comprising:

transmitting a wireless data signal with the wireless module, the wireless data signal containing at least some of the stored information relevant to the container.