CLAIMS

1. A computer cart, comprising:

a computer storage compartment;

a cord storage compartment;

at least one removable electrical transformer attachment panel detachably connected to the computer cart in the cord storage compartment and configured to receive and retain a group of electrical transformers for computers to be stored in the computer storage compartment, the removable electrical transformer attachment panel being configured to be removable from the cord storage compartment, while retaining the group of electrical transformers, to allow the group of electrical transformers to be removed from the computer cart as a group.

2. The computer cart of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of similarly configured removable electrical transformer attachment panels.

3. The computer cart of claim 2, wherein the cord storage compartment comprises a back wall having a plurality of slots for retaining the removable electrical transformer attachment panels.

4. The computer cart of claim 3, wherein each removable electrical transformer attachment panel is formed as a flat plate having a plurality of depending hooks configured to engage respective slots formed in the back wall.

5. The computer cart of claim 1, wherein the removable electrical transformer attachment panel includes a bottom shelf for use in aligning electrical transformers while the electrical transformers are retained on the removable electrical transformer attachment panel.

6. The computer cart of claim 5, wherein the removable electrical transformer attachment panel further includes a plurality of apertures which may be used to enable ties to be used to secure the electrical transformers to the removable electrical transformer attachment panel.

7. The computer cart of claim 1, further comprising a power strip adjacent the removable electrical transformer attachment panel and providing power to the electrical transformers retained on the removable electrical transformer attachment panel.

8. The computer cart of claim 7, wherein the power strip comprises a charging zone in the computer cart.

9. The computer cart of claim 8, further comprising a power distribution system for distribution of power within the cart on a zone-by-zone basis.

10. A power distribution system for a computer cart, comprising:

a current sensor connected to a power input line;

a microprocessor operably connected to the current sensor for receiving an indication of a sensed current on the power input line, the microprocessor containing programmable logic to cause the microprocessor to activate charging zones on a staggered round robin basis.

11. The power distribution system of claim 10, wherein each charging zone comprises a set of outlets.

12. The power distribution system of claim 10, wherein each charging zone comprises a power strip having a set of outlets.

13. The power distribution system of claim 10, wherein the charging zones are arranged in a predetermined order.

14. The power distribution system of claim 10, wherein the charging zones do not include individual current sensors.

15. The power distribution system of claim 10, wherein the microprocessor activates charging zones on a staggered round robin basis by:

selecting a first charging zone;

determining an amount of current drawn by the cart from the current sensor; and

when the current drawn by the cart does not exceed a threshold, selecting a second charging zone from the available charging zones, and sequentially selecting additional charging zones according to a predetermined order until the current drawn by the cart approaches the threshold.

16. The power distribution system of claim 15, wherein the microprocessor activates charging zones on a staggered round robin basis by:

charging the selected group of charging zones for a first period of time; and

selecting a new group of charging zones for a second period of time.

17. The power distribution system of claim 16, wherein the new group of charging zones is selected by first selecting the second charging zone.

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A computer cart, comprising:
a computer storage compartment;
a cord storage compartment;
a plurality of similarly configured removable electrical transformer attachment panel detachably connected to the computer cart in the cord storage compartment, each removable electrical transformer attachment panel being configured to receive and retain a group of electrical transformers for computers to be stored in the computer storage compartment, each of the removable electrical transformer attachment panels being configured to be removable from the cord storage compartment, while retaining the group of electrical transformers, to allow the group of electrical transformers to be removed from the computer cart as a group;
wherein the cord storage compartment comprises a back wall having a plurality of slots for retaining the removable electrical transformer attachment panels; and
wherein each removable electrical transformer attachment panel is formed as a flat plate having a plurality of depending hooks configured to engage respective slots formed in the back wall.

2. A computer cart, comprising:
a computer storage compartment;
a cord storage compartment;
at least one removable electrical transformer attachment panel detachably connected to the computer cart in the cord storage compartment and configured to receive and retain a group of electrical transformers for computers to be stored in the computer storage compartment, the removable electrical transformer attachment panel being configured to be removable from the cord storage compartment, while retaining the group of electrical transformers, to allow the group of electrical transformers to be removed from the computer cart as a group;
wherein the removable electrical transformer attachment panel includes a bottom shelf for use in aligning electrical transformers while the electrical transformers are retained on the removable electrical transformer attachment panel; and

wherein the removable electrical transformer attachment panel further includes a plurality of apertures which may be used to enable ties to be used to secure the electrical transformers to the removable electrical transformer attachment panel.

3. A computer cart, comprising:
a computer storage compartment;
a cord storage compartment;
at least one removable electrical transformer attachment panel detachably connected to the computer cart in the cord storage compartment and configured to receive and retain a group of electrical transformers for computers to be stored in the computer storage compartment, the removable electrical transformer attachment panel being configured to be removable from the cord storage compartment, while retaining the group of electrical transformers, to allow the group of electrical transformers to be removed from the computer cart as a group;
a power strip adjacent the removable electrical transformer attachment panel and providing power to the electrical transformers retained on the removable electrical transformer attachment panel, the power strip comprising a charging zone in the computer cart; and
a power distribution system for distribution of power within the cart on a zone-by-zone basis.

4. A power distribution system for a computer cart, comprising:
a current sensor connected to a power input line;
a microprocessor operably connected to the current sensor for receiving an indication of a sensed current on the power input line, the microprocessor containing programmable logic to cause the microprocessor to activate charging zones on a staggered round robin basis.

5. The power distribution system of claim 4, wherein each charging zone comprises a set of outlets.

6. The power distribution system of claim 4, wherein each charging zone comprises a power strip having a set of outlets.

7. The power distribution system of claim 4, wherein the charging zones are arranged in a predetermined order.

8. The power distribution system of claim 4, wherein the charging zones do not include individual current sensors.

9. The power distribution system of claim 4, wherein the microprocessor activates charging zones on a staggered round robin basis by:
selecting a first charging zone;
determining an amount of current drawn by the cart from the current sensor; and
when the current drawn by the cart does not exceed a threshold, selecting a second charging zone from the available charging zones, and sequentially selecting additional charging zones according to a predetermined order until the current drawn by the cart approaches the threshold.

10. The power distribution system of claim 9, wherein the microprocessor activates charging zones on a staggered round robin basis by:
charging the selected group of charging zones for a first period of time; and
selecting a new group of charging zones for a second period of time.

11. The power distribution system of claim 10, wherein the new group of charging zones is selected by first selecting the second charging zone.