CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

~~1. A system comprising:~~

~~a locking device that has locked and unlocked positions;~~

~~a battery for powering operation of said locking device; and~~

~~a processor for controlling operation of said locking device, wherein said processor has a mode of operation based on a low battery charge threshold, wherein if a charge of said battery gets lowered to said threshold, said locking device goes into a hibernating mode, and said locking device is capable of being awakened for a limited time by a user operation.~~

~~2. The system according to claim 1, comprising an external wakeup switch connected to internal wakeup circuitry for awakening said locking device from the hibernating mode.~~

~~3~~1. A method for operating a locking device comprising:

overriding normal operation of the locking device, which is powered by a battery, wherein if a charge of said battery gets lowered to a low battery charge threshold, said locking device goes into a hibernating mode, and said locking device is capable of being awakened for a limited time by a user operation and providing an external wakeup switch connected to internal wakeup circuitry for awakening said locking device from the hibernating mode,

wherein if the charge of said battery gets lowered to a first low battery charge threshold, said locking device is capable of being unlocked, but a warning is provided of reaching said first low battery charge threshold;

wherein if the charge of said battery gets lowered to a second low battery charge threshold, said locking device is capable of being unlocked only after a time delay.

~~4. The method according to claim 3, wherein if the charge of said battery gets lowered to a first low battery charge threshold, said locking device is capable of being unlocked, but a warning is provided of reaching said first low battery charge threshold.~~

~~5~~2. The method according to claim 4~~1~~, wherein said warning is audible.

~~6~~3. The method according to claim 4~~1~~, wherein said warning is visual.

~~7. The method according to claim 4, wherein if the charge of said battery gets lowered to a second low battery charge threshold, said locking device is capable of being unlocked only after a time delay.~~

~~84~~. The method according to claim ~~71~~1, wherein upon reaching said second low battery charge threshold or a third threshold, operation of said locking device is not possible.

~~95~~. The method according to claim ~~71~~1, wherein if the charge of said battery gets lowered to a third low battery charge threshold, said locking device goes into the hibernating mode.

6. The method according to claim 1, wherein upon reaching said second low battery charge threshold, opening of the locking device is restricted to action of manual operation buttons and RF actuation of the locking device is not possible.

7. The method according to claim 5, wherein upon reaching the third low battery charge threshold, the locking device responds to an OPEN command, but does not automatically lock, so that a user is never locked out.

~~10. A method for operating a locking device comprising:~~

providing a human-machine interface that comprises one or more finger-movement sensing surfaces; and

using sensing circuitry to sense a movement of one or more fingers relative to said finger-movement surfaces, said sensing circuitry sending a command signal to a locking device based on the movement sensed.

11. The method according to claim 10, wherein said movement comprises simultaneously sliding fingers on left and right sides of said interface.

12. The method according to claim 10, wherein said movement comprises sliding a finger on one side of said interface.

13. The method according to claim 10, wherein said movement comprises sliding one finger up and one down on either side of said interface.

14. The method according to claim 10, wherein said movement of the one or more fingers comprises movement of at least two fingers simultaneously.

15. The method according to claim 10, wherein said movement of the one or more fingers comprises movement of at least two fingers one after the other.