CLAIMS

1. A hybrid cable/rail transportation system comprising:

a cable transportation system portion comprising a cable and a first trolley configured to be supported by hanging from the cable;

a rail transportation system portion comprising a rail and a second trolley configured to be supported by resting on the rail, wherein the cable transportation system portion is at least one of: upstream of the rail transportation system portion and downstream of the rail transportation system portion; and

a transportation unit comprising a cabin comprising a roof with a first coupling device configured to be selectively coupled with the first trolley, and a floor with a second coupling device configured to be selectively coupled with the second trolley, the cabin is configured to be:

(i) supported by hanging from the cable and moved along the cable transportation system portion, and

(ii) supported by resting on the rail and moved along the rail transportation system portion.

2. The hybrid cable/rail transportation system of claim 1, wherein:

the first trolley comprises a suspension arm having a

free end configured to be coupled with the first coupling device;

the suspension arm comprises a plurality of pins; and

the first coupling device comprises a plurality of seats projecting from the roof of the cabin and configured to be selectively coupled with the plurality of pins.

3. The hybrid/rail transportation system of claim 1, wherein:

the second trolley comprises a supporting frame for the cabin;

the second coupling device comprises a plurality of pins projecting from the floor of the cabin and configured to be selectively coupled with a plurality of seats projecting from the frame of the second trolley.

4. A hybrid cable/rail transportation system cabin comprising:

a roof with a first coupling device configured to be selectively coupled with a first trolley of a cable transportation system portion comprising a cable, wherein when coupled with the first trolley, the hybrid cable/rail transportation system cabin is configured to be supported by hanging from the cable and moved along the cable transportation system portion; and

a floor with a second coupling device configured to be selectively coupled with a second trolley of a rail transportation system portion comprising a rail, wherein the rail transportation system portion is at least one of upstream of the cable transportation system portion and downstream of the cable transportation system portion and when coupled with the second trolley, the hybrid cable/rail transportation system cabin is configured to be supported by resting on the rail and moved along the rail transportation system portion.

5. The hybrid cabin/rail transportation system cabin of claim 4, wherein the first coupling device comprises a plurality of seats projecting from the roof, the plurality of seats configured to be selectively coupled with a plurality of pins of the first trolley.

6. The hybrid cabin/rail transportation system cabin of claim 4, wherein the second coupling device comprises a plurality of pins projecting from the floor, the plurality of pins configured to be selectively coupled with a plurality of seats of the second trolley.

7. A method for operating a hybrid cable/rail transportation system, the method comprising:

a) moving a cabin along a cable transportation system portion supported by hanging from a first trolley, the cabin comprising a roof with a first coupling device configured to be selectively coupled with the first trolley, and a floor with a second coupling device configured to be selectively coupled with a second trolley;

b) uncoupling the cabin from the first trolley;

c) coupling the cabin with the second trolley;

d) moving the cabin along a rail transportation system portion supported by resting on the second trolley; and

e) at least one of:

(i) moving the cabin further along the rail transportation system portion supported by resting on the second trolley;

(ii) uncoupling the cabin from the second trolley;

(iii) coupling the cabin with the first trolley; and

(iv) moving the cabin along the cable transportation system portion supported by hanging from the first trolley.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein (c) occurs before (b) such that the cabin is temporarily coupled both the first trolley and the second trolley.