ABSTRACT

A article sorting system that can increase the storage capacity per unit floor area and improve the throughput of the system. Multiple storage apparatuses 4 are installed between main input line 2 and main output line 3, each storage apparatus 4 is constructed so that the input/output line 7 passes through it in order to enable automatic receipt of articles from the main input line 2 as well as automatic delivery of articles to the main output line 3, a multi-tiered article storage section 8, and a transfer apparatus 9 that travels between the input/output line 7 and the article storage section 8. In addition, a sorter 5 is installed in such a manner that it can move freely along the main input line 2 in order to allow the main input line 2 to connect to the input/output line 7 of a selected storage apparatus 4 for input purposes. The sorter 5 is designed to move at the upper part of the main input line.