WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A shipping system for use in transporting and/or storing temperature-sensitive materials, the shipping system comprising:

(a) an insulation unit, the insulation unit shaped to include a cavity bounded by a bottom wall, four side walls, and an open top, wherein the insulation unit comprises a plurality of vacuum insulated panels, wherein the plurality of vacuum insulated panels comprises a bottom vacuum insulated panel and four side vacuum insulated panels, and wherein each of the four side vacuum insulated panels is in contact with the bottom vacuum insulated panel;

(b) a liner, the liner being removably mounted on the insulation unit, the liner being shaped to include a cavity, wherein the cavity of the liner extends into the cavity of the insulation unit, wherein the insulation unit has a top edge, and wherein the liner is shaped to cover the top edge of the insulation unit;

(c) a product box, the product box being removably disposed within the cavity of the liner; and

(d) a plurality of temperature-control members, each of the plurality of temperature-control members being removably disposed within the cavity of the liner, wherein each of the temperature-control members comprises a flexible mat having a plurality of discrete sealed pouches, each of the plurality of discrete sealed pouches containing a quantity of phase-change material, the flexible mat being sufficiently flexible to be bent by at least 90 degrees, with each surface of the product box facing at least one of the temperature-control members.

2. The shipping system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the liner is further shaped to include a bottom wall, a plurality of side walls, and a flange, the flange covering all of the top edge of the insulation unit.

3. The shipping system as claimed in claim 2 wherein the liner is further shaped to include an outer extension extending downwardly from the flange.

4. The shipping system as claimed in claim 2 wherein the liner is a one-piece construction made of a rigid material.

5. The shipping system as claimed in claim 2 wherein the liner comprises a thermoformed member.

6. The shipping system as claimed in claim 2 wherein the liner comprises corrugated cardboard.

7. The shipping system as claimed in claim 2 wherein the liner comprises a polymer-coated corrugated cardboard.

8. The shipping system as claimed in claim 2 wherein the liner comprises a corrugated cardboard spray-coated with a polymer coating.

9. The shipping system as claimed in claim 2 wherein the liner is a multi-piece construction comprising a corrugated plastic member defining one or more of the side walls and a thermoformed plastic member defining the flange.

10. The shipping system as claimed in claim 2 wherein the liner is impermeable to liquid.

11. The shipping system as claimed in claim 2 wherein the liner is made of a material that may be cleaned with a cleaning solvent.

12. The shipping system as claimed in claim 2 wherein the side walls of the liner comprise an upper portion, a lower portion, and an intermediate portion, wherein the lower portion is spaced inwardly relative to the upper portion, and wherein the intermediate portion forms a shelf between the upper portion and the lower portion.

13. The shipping system as claimed in claim 2 wherein the cavity of the liner comprises an upper portion and a lower portion and wherein the upper portion has a greater footprint than does the lower portion.

14. The shipping system as claimed in claim 13 wherein one of the plurality of temperature-control members has at least a portion snugly disposed within the lower portion of the cavity of the liner.

15. The shipping system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the liner comprises at least one of polyester paper, expanded polypropylene, polyethylene terephthalate, and plastic corrugate panels.

16. The shipping system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the plurality of temperature-control members is positioned snugly on all sides of the product box.

17. The shipping system as claimed in claim 16 wherein a layer of exactly one pouch is positioned on all sides of the product box.

18. The shipping system as claimed in claim 16 wherein a layer of more than one pouch is positioned on at least one side of the product box.

19. The shipping system as claimed in claim 16 wherein a layer of more than one pouch is positioned on at least one side of the product box and a layer of exactly one pouch is positioned on at least one side of the product box.

20. The shipping system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the phase-change material of all the temperature-control members is identical.

21. The shipping system as claimed in claim 1 wherein some of the phase-change materials of the temperature-control members are different.

22. The shipping system as claimed in claim 1 wherein at least one pouch of at least one temperature-control member contains a different phase-change material than another pouch of another temperature-control member.

23. The shipping system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the plurality of temperature-control members comprises at least one inner temperature-control member and at least one outer temperature-control member, both the at least one inner temperature-control member and the at least one outer temperature-control member being positioned in the cavity of the liner, with the at least one inner temperature-control member being more proximal to the product box and with the at least one outer temperature-control member being more distal to the product box.

24. The shipping system as claimed in claim 23 wherein the at least one inner temperature-control member comprises a first type of phase-change material and wherein the at least one outer temperature-control member comprises a second type of phase-change material, the first type of phase-change material and the second type of phase-change material being different.

25. The shipping system as claimed in claim 24 wherein the at least one inner temperature-control member is at a first temperature at pack-out and the at least one outer temperature-control member is at a second temperature at pack-out and wherein the first temperature and the second temperature are the same temperature.

26. The shipping system as claimed in claim 24 wherein the at least one inner temperature-control member is at a first temperature at pack-out and the at least one outer temperature-control member is at a second temperature at pack-out and wherein the first temperature and the second temperature are different temperatures.

27. The shipping system as claimed in claim 23 wherein the at least one inner temperature-control member and the at least one outer temperature-control member comprise an identical phase-change material.

28. The shipping system as claimed in claim 27 wherein the at least one inner temperature-control member is a first temperature at pack-out and the at least one outer temperature-control member is a second temperature at pack-out and wherein the first temperature and the second temperature are different temperatures.

29. The shipping system as claimed in claim 27 wherein the at least one inner temperature-control member is at a first temperature at pack-out and the at least one outer temperature-control member is at a second temperature at pack-out and wherein the first temperature and the second temperature are the same temperature.

30. The shipping system as claimed in claim 23 wherein at least one of the at least one inner temperature-control member and at least one of the at least one outer temperature-control member are mechanically coupled to one another.

31. The shipping system as claimed in claim 23 wherein each of the inner temperature-control members and each of the outer temperature-control members contains a phase-change material having a phase-change temperature of +17 °C.

32. The shipping system as claimed in claim 31 wherein the inner temperature-control members have a temperature of +20 °C. at pack-out and wherein the outer temperature-control members have a temperature of +5° C. at pack-out.

33. The shipping system as claimed in claim 23 wherein at least some of the temperature-control members contain a phase-change material having a phase-change temperature of +17 °C.

34. The shipping system as claimed in claim 23 wherein the inner temperature-control members have a phase-change temperature of +17° C. or the outer temperature-control members have a phase-change temperature of +17° C.

35. The shipping system as claimed in claim 23 wherein the inner temperature-control members have a phase-change temperature of +17° C. and the outer

temperature-control members have a phase-change temperature of +24° C. or the inner temperature-control members have a phase-change temperature of +24° C. and the outer temperature-control members have a phase-change temperature of +17° C.

36. The shipping system as claimed in claim 35 wherein the inner and outer temperature-control members have a temperature of +20° C. at pack-out.

37. The shipping system as claimed in claim 1 wherein at least some of the pouches of one of the temperature-control members comprises a first type of phase-change material and at least some of the pouches of the same temperature-control member comprise a second type of phase-change material, the first and second types of phase-change material being different.

38. The shipping system as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a lid, the lid being removably mounted over the insulation unit for closing the cavity of the insulation unit.

39. The shipping system as claimed in claim 38 wherein the lid comprises a vacuum insulated panel.

40. The shipping system as claimed in claim 1 further comprising an outer box, wherein the insulation unit, the liner, the product box and the at least one temperature-control member are removably mounted within the outer box.

41. The shipping system as claimed in claim 40 wherein the outer box comprises a top closure flap and wherein the shipping system further comprises an insulated lid coupled to the top closure flap so that closure of the top closure flap positions the insulated lid over the cavity of the insulation unit.

42. The shipping system as claimed in claim 41 wherein the insulated lid is removably mounted on the top closure flap.

43. The shipping system as claimed in claim 41 further comprising a cover, the cover mounted on the insulated lid.

44. The shipping system as claimed in claim 43 wherein the insulated lid is removably mounted on the top closure flap and wherein the cover is removably mounted on the insulated lid.