

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A control system for controlling an article transport vehicle configured to travel along a predetermined travel route and transport an article, characterized in that the control system comprises:
 - a stop position indicator at a position corresponding to a stop site provided for the article transport vehicle on the travel route; and
 - a superordinate control unit communicably connected to the article transport vehicle and configured to output an operation command for the article transport vehicle;
 - the article transport vehicle includes:
 - a travel unit configured to travel along the travel route;
 - a transfer unit configured to hold the article and transfer the article to and from a transfer target location at the stop site;
 - an indicator detection unit configured to detect the stop position indicator;
 - and
 - a control unit configured to control the travel unit and the transfer unit, the stop position indicator includes:
 - a stop position indicator section indicating a stop position for the article transport vehicle; and
 - a stop notice indicator section on an upstream side of the stop position indicator section, the upstream side being a rearward side in a travel direction of the article transport vehicle traveling along the travel route,
 - the stop notice indicator section has on the upstream side an end apart from the stop position indicator section to the upstream side by a predetermined notice distance,
 - in response to the indicator detection unit detecting the stop notice indicator section and then detecting the stop position indicator section, the control unit performs a travel stop process for stopping travel of the travel unit, and performs, after the travel of the travel unit is stopped as a result of the travel stop process, a transfer process for causing the transfer unit to transfer the article,
 - the article transport vehicle further includes a travel distance detection unit configured to detect a travel distance of the travel unit, and
 - the control unit performs, instead of the transfer process, an anomaly notification process for providing a notification of an occurrence of an anomaly to the superordinate control unit, after the travel of the travel unit is stopped by the travel stop process, in response to (i) the travel distance from a position at which the indicator detection unit has detected the stop notice indicator section being not larger than a determination distance smaller than the notice distance and (ii) the indicator detection unit detecting the stop position indicator section,
 - the superordinate control unit re-outputs, in response to the notification of an occurrence of an anomaly provided by the control unit, a travel command to the article transport vehicle including the control unit, the travel command instructing the article transport vehicle to travel to, as a destination, the stop site at which the stop position indicator related to the occurrence of an anomaly is disposed, and
 - the control unit restarts the travel of the travel unit in response to the re-outputted travel command.

2. The control system according to claim 1,
wherein the superordinate control unit does not re-output the travel command and provides an anomaly warning with use of a display apparatus or a sound output apparatus in response to the notification of an occurrence of an anomaly regarding an identical stop position indicator being provided by an identical article transport vehicle a predetermined number of times or more.
3. The control system according to claim 1 or 2,
wherein in response to the notification of an occurrence of an anomaly provided by the control unit, the superordinate control unit stores, in a storage device, anomaly occurrence information including information related to at least one of the article transport vehicle including the control unit or the stop position indicator related to the occurrence of an anomaly.
4. A control system for controlling an article transport vehicle configured to travel along a predetermined travel route and transport an article,
characterized in that the control system comprises:
a stop position indicator at a position corresponding to a stop site provided for the article transport vehicle on the travel route,
the article transport vehicle includes:
a travel unit configured to travel along the travel route;
a transfer unit configured to hold the article and transfer the article to and from a transfer target location at the stop site;
an indicator detection unit configured to detect the stop position indicator;
and
a control unit configured to control the travel unit and the transfer unit,
the stop position indicator includes: a stop position indicator section indicating a stop position for the article transport vehicle; and a stop notice indicator section arranged on an upstream side with respect to the stop position indicator section, the upstream side being a rearward side in a travel direction of the article transport vehicle traveling along the travel route,
the stop notice indicator section has on the upstream side an end apart from the stop position indicator section to the upstream side by a predetermined notice distance,
in response to (i) the indicator detection unit detecting the stop notice indicator section and (ii) the control unit then determining based on a result of the indicator detection unit detecting the stop position indicator section that the article transport vehicle has reached a position at which the stop position indicator section is disposed, the control unit performs a travel stop process for stopping travel of the travel unit, and performs, after the travel of the travel unit is stopped as a result of the travel stop process, a transfer process for causing the transfer unit to transfer the article,
the article transport vehicle further includes a travel distance detection unit configured to detect a travel distance of the travel unit, and
in response to (i) the travel distance from a position at which the indicator detection unit has detected the stop notice indicator section being not larger than

a determination distance smaller than the notice distance and (ii) the indicator detection unit detecting the stop position indicator section, the control unit does not determine that the article transport vehicle has reached the position at which the stop position indicator section is disposed and continues travel of the travel unit, and in response to the travel distance from a position at which the indicator detection unit has detected the stop notice indicator section exceeding the determination distance, and the indicator detection unit then detecting the stop position indicator section, the control unit determines that the article transport vehicle has reached the position at which the stop position indicator section is disposed.

5. The control system according to any one of claims 1 to 4,
wherein the control unit provides an anomaly warning with use of a display apparatus or a sound output apparatus in response to (i) the travel distance from a position at which the indicator detection unit has detected the stop notice indicator section being not larger than the determination distance and (ii) the indicator detection unit detecting the stop position indicator section a predetermined number of times or more.

6. The control system according to any one of claims 1 to 5,
wherein the control system has a range in which the travel distance from a position at which the indicator detection unit has detected the stop notice indicator section is not larger than the determination distance which range is based on a range in which the transfer unit is unable to transfer the article to or from the transfer target location.

7.
A control system for controlling an article transport vehicle configured to travel along a predetermined travel route and transport an article,
characterized in that the control system comprises:
a stop position indicator at a position corresponding to a stop site provided for the article transport vehicle on the travel route; and
a superordinate control unit communicably connected to the article transport vehicle and configured to output an operation command for the article transport vehicle;
the article transport vehicle includes:
a travel unit configured to travel along the travel route;
a transfer unit configured to hold the article and transfer the article to and from a transfer target location at the stop site;
an indicator detection unit configured to detect the stop position indicator;
and
a control unit configured to control the travel unit and the transfer unit,
the stop position indicator includes:
a stop position indicator section indicating a stop position for the article transport vehicle; and
a stop notice indicator section on an upstream side of the stop position indicator section, the upstream side being a rearward side in a travel direction of the article transport vehicle traveling along the travel route,

the stop notice indicator section has on the upstream side an end apart from the stop position indicator section to the upstream side by a predetermined notice distance,

in response to the indicator detection unit detecting the stop notice indicator section and then detecting the stop position indicator section, the control unit performs a travel stop process for stopping travel of the travel unit, and performs, after the travel of the travel unit is stopped as a result of the travel stop process, a transfer process for causing the transfer unit to transfer the article,

the article transport vehicle further includes a travel distance detection unit configured to detect a travel distance of the travel unit,

the control unit performs, instead of the transfer process, an anomaly notification process for providing a notification of an occurrence of an anomaly to the superordinate control unit, after the travel of the travel unit is stopped by the travel stop process, in response to (i) the travel distance from a position at which the indicator detection unit has detected the stop notice indicator section being not larger than a determination distance smaller than the notice distance and (ii) the indicator detection unit detecting the stop position indicator section, and

the control unit performs the transfer process in response to the indicator detection unit detecting the stop position indicator section and continuing to detect the stop position indicator section for a predetermined period of time or longer.