to track at least one of a user's removal of items from each dispenser or return of items to each dispenser.

32. The system of claim 1 wherein said storage component is positioned within a walk-in area, and wherein the identification system is configured to identify a user entering into the walk-in area.

33. The system of claim 1 wherein said sensor system include motion tracking sensors configured to track user's motions when accessing said items.

34. The system of claim 1 wherein said sensor system includes a presence sensor which can detect the presence or absence of one of said items at its storage position, and wherein said one item is directly manually removable from said storage position.

35. A method for operating an access and storage system comprising:

providing a storage component configured to store items therein or thereon in an associated storage position, wherein said storage component is configured to provide a user direct manual access to said items in said storage positions, wherein said storage component is operatively coupled to an identification system for identifying a user, and wherein said identification system is operatively coupled to an authorization database for tracking which of said items a particular identified user is authorized to access; and

tracking, via a sensor system, at least one of said user's removal of an item from the associated storage position or replacement of an item to the associated storage position.

36. An access and storage system comprising:

a storage component configured to store items therein or thereon in an associated storage position, wherein said storage component includes a secure storage area in which at least some of said items are positioned, and wherein said items positioned in said secure storage area are not accessible to a user who is not granted access thereto and are directly manually accessible in their storage positions by a user who is granted access thereto; ~~and~~

a sensor system configured to track at least one of said user's removal of an item from the associated storage position or replacement of an item to the associated storage position; and

an identification system for identifying said user and an authorization database operatively coupled to said identification system for tracking which of said items a particular identified user is authorized to access.

37. The system of claim 36 wherein said sensor system operates independently of any sensor component secured to the tracked items.

~~38. The system of claim 36 further comprising an identification system for identifying said user and an authorization database operatively coupled to said identification system for tracking which of said items a particular identified user is authorized to access.~~

~~39.~~38. The system of claim ~~38~~ 36 wherein said storage component is configured to provide said user direct manual access to any of said items only after said user is identified by said identification system.

~~40.~~39. The system of claim ~~38~~ 36 wherein said storage component is configured to block direct manual access to said items to a user who is not identified by said identification system.

~~41.~~40. The system of claim ~~38~~ 36 wherein said storage component is configured to provide said user direct manual access only to said items said user is authorized to access as determined by said authorization database.

~~42.~~41. The system of claim ~~38~~ 36 wherein said secure storage area defines an inner volume, and wherein the secure storage area is movable between a closed state in which a user is generally prevented from accessing any items in said inner volume and an open state in which a user is able to directly manually access items in said inner volume, and wherein the system is configured such that the secure storage area is locked in said closed state until said identification system identifies a user that is authorized to access an item in said secure storage area, at which time said secure storage area is unlocked to enable said secure storage area to move to said open state.

~~43.~~42. The system of claim ~~42~~ 41 wherein said secure storage area includes a door or drawer which is movable between an open position and a closed position, and wherein the position of said door or drawer corresponds to the state of the secure storage area.

~~44.~~43. The system of claim ~~38~~ 36 wherein said system is configured to prevent removal of an item by a user not authorized to remove such item.

~~45.~~44. The system of claim ~~38~~ 36 wherein said system is configured to initiate a notice upon removal or attempted removal of an item by a user not authorized to remove such item.

~~46.~~45. The system of claim ~~38~~ 36 further comprising a controller, and wherein said controller is operatively coupled to said identification system, said authorization database and said sensor system.

~~47.~~46. The system of claim ~~46~~ 45 wherein said controller is configured to record the identity of each item accessed or attempted to be accessed by each identified user.

~~48.~~47. The system of claim ~~46~~ 45 wherein said controller is configured to track levels of inventory of said items in said system.

~~49.~~48. The system of claim 36 further comprising said items, each item being positioned in its associated storage position.

~~50.~~49. The system of claim ~~49~~ 48 wherein each item is manually removable from said storage component.

~~51.~~50. The system of claim 36 wherein the system is configured such that each item resides in its associated storage position prior to said user identifying said item or attempting to access the item until such time that said user directly manually accesses said accessed item in its storage position.

~~52.~~51. The system of claim 36 further comprising an identification system for identifying a user, wherein the system is configured such each particular item desired to be accessed does not change position from a time said identification system identifies said user until a time said user directly manually accesses said particular item.

~~53.~~52. The system of claim 36 wherein said items do not reside on helical coils or a dispensing arms when in their storage position.

~~54.~~53. The system of claim 36 wherein said sensor system utilizes only sensors other than RFID sensors.

~~55.~~54. The system of claim 36 wherein said sensor system deductively determines the removal or replacement of said items.

~~56.~~55. The system of claim 36 wherein said storage component takes the form of a dispenser configured to dispense a plurality of items of only a single type, and wherein said sensor system is configured to track removal of any items from said dispenser.

~~57.~~56. The system of claim 36 wherein said storage component takes to form of a storage cabinet, said storage cabinet defining a plurality of secure storage areas which can be manually accessed, each secure storage area having a dispenser positioned therein, each dispenser storing a plurality of items therein for removal therefrom by a user.

~~58.~~57. The system of claim ~~57~~ 56 wherein said sensor system is configured to track at least one of a user's removal of items from each dispenser or return of items to each dispenser.

~~59.~~58. The system of claim ~~46~~ 45 wherein said storage component is positioned within a secure walk-in area, and wherein the system is configured to prevent unauthorized users from entering the secure walk-in area.

~~60.~~59. The system of claim ~~59~~ 58 wherein said storage component includes a plurality a shelves, each shelf having a dispenser positioned thereon, each dispenser storing

a plurality of items therein for removal therefrom by a user, wherein said sensor system is configured to track at least one of a user's removal of items from each dispenser or return of items to each dispenser.

~~61.~~60. The system of claim ~~46~~45 wherein said storage component includes at least one wall and a door through which a user can pass, said wall defining a secure walk-in area into which a user can enter, wherein a plurality of dispensers are positioned in said secure walk-in area, each dispenser storing a plurality of items therein for removal therefrom by a user, wherein said sensor system is configured to track at least one of a user's removal of items from each dispenser or return of items to each dispenser.

~~62.~~61. The system of claim 36 further comprising an identification system for identifying a user, and wherein said storage component is positioned within a walk-in area, and wherein the identification system is configured to identify a user who enters into the walk-in area.

~~63.~~62. The system of claim 36 wherein said sensor system include motion tracking sensors configured to track user's motions when accessing said item.

63. The system of claim 1 wherein said sensor system is configured to distinguish between removal of an item from the associated storage position and replacement of an item to the associated storage position.