CLAIMS

1. An installation for handling parcels, said installation comprising:
independently self-propelled motor-driven shuttle carts, each of which is adapted to transport a parcel,
a monitoring and control central unit that is suitable for individually and remotely controlling said shuttle carts to travel in freely guided manner on the basis of data indicating the instantaneous three-dimensional position of each shuttle cart, and
at least one handheld electronic unit suitable for inputting information marked on a parcel when it is in the vicinity of the parcel and for transmitting said information to said central unit,
wherein said central unit is configured to read an instantaneous three-dimensional position of said handheld unit in response to said information being input by said handheld unit, and in that said central unit is further configured so that, on the basis of said data indicating the instantaneous there-dimensional positions of the shuttle carts and on the basis of said instantaneous three-dimensional position of the handheld unit, said central unit detects a match between the instantaneous three-dimensional position of a certain shuttle cart and the instantaneous three-dimensional position of the handheld unit, and, in response to such a match being detected, puts said information associated with said parcel into correspondence with data associated with said certain shuttle cart.

2. An installation according to claim 1, wherein said handheld unit is a bar code reader.

3. An installation according to claim 1, wherein said handheld unit is a camera configured to form a digital image of the parcel that includes said information.

4. An installation according to claim 1, wherein the parcels are postal parcels.

5. An installation according to claim 1, wherein each parcel is placed on a trolley coupled to a shuttle cart.

6. An installation according to claim 1, wherein said information is unique identification information that uniquely identifies a parcel.

7. An installation according to claim 1, wherein said handheld unit is equipped with a three-dimensional positioning geotag.

8. An installation according to claim 4, wherein the installation is configured to perform outward/inward sorting on postal parcels.