SMIF Pods Handling System and the Method Thereof

ABSTRACT

The present invention provides a SMIF carrier for handling Standard Mechanical InterFace (SMIF) pods to be processed under a processing equipment, wherein the processing equipment having an input pod loader and an output pod loader for handling the contents in the SMIF pod. The SMIF carrier comprises an upstream unit disposed over the input pod loader; a downstream unit disposed over the output pod loader; and a bridge conveyer connecting the upstream unit and the downstream unit. Operationally, a plurality of SMIF pods are loaded on the upstream unit, said upstream unit comprises input handling means adapted to load the SMIF pods on the input pod loader and transport the emptied SMIF pods to the bridge conveyer, the bridge conveyer automatically conveys the emptied SMIF pods to the downstream unit, said downstream unit comprises input handling means adapted to load the emptied pods onto the output pod loader for receiving the processed contents from the processing equipment.

FIG. 1 for publication.