CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A system for managing the dispensing of beverages from an automatic beverage dispensing unit, comprising:

an input module for receiving a plurality of pouring schema wherein each of the plurality of pouring schema is a beverage recipe and the input module allows selection of at least one criteria to be used in the beverage recipe;

a memory for storing the plurality of pouring schema;

a processor for processing the pouring schema; and,

an output module for displaying instructions based on the pouring schema.

2. The system of claim 1 wherein the system includes a plurality of user accounts and the received plurality of pouring schema is associate with at least one of the user accounts.

3. The system of claim 1 further including a beverage dispensing unit setup module for selecting criteria available for use for a pouring schema.

4. The system of claim 1 wherein the criteria includes at least one of selecting at least one ingredient to be used in the beverage recipe, selecting the size of the beverage, and selecting the amount of the at least one ingredient to be used in the beverage recipe.

5. The system of claim 1 wherein the beverage recipe includes one of a first plurality of liquids and one of a second plurality of liquids wherein the first plurality of liquids comprises liquor and the second plurality of liquids comprises mixers.

6. The system of claim 5 wherein the pouring schema includes mixing at least one of the first plurality of liquids with at least one of the second plurality of liquids.

7. The system of claim further including an access module for setting access permissions for access to one or more of the pouring schema.

8. The system of claim 1 further comprising a second input module for receiving a beverage request for a beverage corresponding to a beverage recipe, wherein the processor processes the pouring schema corresponding to the beverage recipe.

9. The system of claim 1 including a second memory for storing information relating to one or more beverages dispensed by the system during a report session, wherein the information

includes at least one of the number of beverages dispensed over the report session, the start time for the report session, time the first beverage is dispensed, the time the last beverage is dispensed, the end time for the report session, the type of consumer, the types of beverages dispensed, the total volume of beverages dispensed, and the size of the beverages dispensed

10. The system of claim 1 wherein the automatic beverage dispensing unit comprises a supply pack containing one or more ingredients to be used with one or more of the pouring schema.

11. The system of claim 10 further including a priming input module for receiving priming instructions for energizing one or mechanisms for priming at least one supply pack.

12. A system for managing the dispensing of beverages from an automatic beverage dispensing unit, comprising:

an input module for receiving a plurality of pouring schema wherein each of the plurality of pouring schema is a beverage recipe and the input module allows selection of at least one accounting criteria to track accounting data for one or more beverages dispensed by the automatic beverage dispensing unit;

a memory for storing the plurality of pouring schema and the at least one accounting criteria;

a processor for processing the pouring schema and the at least one accounting criteria; and,

an output module for providing accounting data corresponding to the at least one accounting criteria based on use of the automatic beverage dispensing unit.

13. The system of claim 12 wherein the accounting criteria includes at least one of the number of beverages dispensed over a report session, the start time for the report session, time the first beverage is dispensed, the time the last beverage is dispensed, the end time for the report session, the type of consumer, the types of beverages dispensed, the total volume of beverages dispensed, and the size of the beverages dispensed.

14. The system of claim 12 wherein the accounting data is stored in the memory and can be transferred to an external memory.

15. The system of claim 12 wherein the output module includes a display and the accounting data is displayed on the display.

16. A system for dispensing beverages from an automatic beverage dispensing unit, comprising:

a memory for storing a plurality of pouring schema wherein each of the plurality of pouring schema corresponds to a beverage recipe;

an input module for displaying at least one beverage recipe and for receiving selection of a beverage request corresponding to a displayed beverage recipe;

a processor for processing the pouring schema based on the beverage request; and,

an output module for displaying instructions for a user wherein the displays instructions correspond to the beverage recipe.

17. The system of claim 16 wherein the input module includes a touch screen interface for allowing selection of a beverage request.

18. The system of claim 16 wherein the output module includes a touch screen interface for displaying instructions for a user.

19. The system of claim 16 wherein the input module provides a plurality of beverage category input selections and each input selection corresponds to one of a plurality of beverage categories, wherein selection of the input selection provides a list of beverages which may be dispensed by the automatic dispensing unit.

20. The system of claim 16 further including a search module for allowing the user to search for a beverage based on a search criteria, wherein the results of the search are displayed on the output module.

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A system for managing the dispensing of beverages from an automatic beverage dispensing unit, comprising:

an input module for receiving a plurality of pouring schema wherein each of the plurality of pouring schema is a beverage recipe and the input module allows selection of at least one criteria to be used in the beverage recipe;

a memory for storing the plurality of pouring schema;

a processor for processing the pouring schema;

an output module for displaying instructions based on the pouring schema; and

a search module for allowing the user to search for a beverage based on a search criteria, wherein the results of the search are displayed on the output module.

2. The system of claim 1 wherein the system includes a plurality of user accounts and the received plurality of pouring schema is associate with at least one of the user accounts.

3. The system of claim 1 further including a beverage dispensing unit setup module for selecting criteria available for use for a pouring schema.

4. The system of claim 1 wherein the criteria includes at least one of selecting at least one ingredient to be used in the beverage recipe, selecting the size of the beverage, and selecting the amount of the at least one ingredient to be used in the beverage recipe.

5. The system of claim 1 wherein the beverage recipe includes one of a first plurality of liquids and one of a second plurality of liquids wherein the first plurality of liquids comprises liquor and the second plurality of liquids comprises mixers.

6. The system of claim 5 wherein the pouring schema includes mixing at least one of the first plurality of liquids with at least one of the second plurality of liquids.

7. The system of claim further including an access module for setting access permissions for access to one or more of the pouring schema.

8. The system of claim 1 further comprising a second input module for receiving a beverage request for a beverage corresponding to a beverage recipe, wherein the processor processes the pouring schema corresponding to the beverage recipe.

9. The system of claim 1 including a second memory for storing information relating to one or more beverages dispensed by the system during a report session, wherein the information includes at least one of the number of beverages dispensed over the report session, the start time for the report session, time the first beverage is dispensed, the time the last beverage is dispensed, the end time for the report session, the type of consumer, the types of beverages dispensed, the total volume of beverages dispensed, and the size of the beverages dispensed.

10. The system of claim 1 wherein the automatic beverage dispensing unit comprises a supply pack containing one or more ingredients to be used with one or more of the pouring schema.

11. The system of claim 10 further including a priming input module for receiving priming instructions for energizing one or mechanisms for priming at least one supply pack.

12. A system for managing the dispensing of beverages from an automatic beverage dispensing unit, comprising:

an input module for receiving a plurality of pouring schema wherein each of the plurality of pouring schema is a beverage recipe and the input module allows selection of at least one accounting criteria to track accounting data for one or more beverages dispensed by the automatic beverage dispensing unit;

a memory for storing the plurality of pouring schema and the at least one accounting criteria;

a processor for processing the pouring schema and the at least one accounting criteria;

an output module for providing accounting data corresponding to the at least one accounting criteria based on use of the automatic beverage dispensing unit; and

a search module for allowing the user to search for a beverage based on a search criteria, wherein the results of the search are displayed on the output module.

13. The system of claim 12 wherein the accounting criteria includes at least one of the number of beverages dispensed over a report session, the start time for the report session, time the first beverage is dispensed, the time the last beverage is dispensed, the end time for the report session, the type of consumer, the types of beverages dispensed, the total volume of beverages dispensed, and the size of the beverages dispensed.

14. The system of claim 12 wherein the accounting data is stored in the memory and can be transferred to an external memory.

15. The system of claim 12 wherein the output module includes a display and the accounting data is displayed on the display.

16. A system for dispensing beverages from an automatic beverage dispensing unit, comprising:

a memory for storing a plurality of pouring schema wherein each of the plurality of pouring schema corresponds to a beverage recipe;

an input module for displaying at least one beverage recipe and for receiving selection of a beverage request corresponding to a displayed beverage recipe;

a processor for processing the pouring schema based on the beverage request;

an output module for displaying instructions for a user wherein the displays instructions correspond to the beverage recipe; and

a search module for allowing the user to search for a beverage based on a search criteria, wherein the results of the search are displayed on the output module.

17. The system of claim 16 wherein the input module includes a touch screen interface for allowing selection of a beverage request.

18. The system of claim 16 wherein the output module includes a touch screen interface for displaying instructions for a user.

19. The system of claim 16 wherein the input module provides a plurality of beverage category input selections and each input selection corresponds to one of a plurality of beverage categories, wherein selection of the input selection provides a list of beverages which may be dispensed by the automatic dispensing unit.