CLAIMS

1. Communication arrangement for at least two container handling equipment CHEs, said at least two CHEs configured to operate within an area comprising a plurality of container spots arranged in a plurality of rows and columns; the communication arrangement for each of the at least two CHEs comprising:
- a first communication module configured to retrieve from a terminal operating system a plurality of jobs to be performed by the respective CHE within said area, said job comprising instructions to move a container and to identify a container spot of the plurality of container spots, the respective CHE being a first one of said at least two CHEs;
-a second communication module configured to communicate with at least another, second one of the at least two CHEs operating within said area, said communication with said second CHE being autonomous from receipts from the first communication module and/or manual triggering and configured to transmit a job sharing message to said second one of the at least two CHEs, said job sharing message indicating a job to be performed by the second one of the at least two CHEs, said job being a job of the plurality of jobs;
wherein the second communication module is configured to transmit said job sharing message in response to a message requesting to share a job retrieved from the second one of the at least two CHEs.

2. The communication arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the first communication module is configured to communicate with the terminal operating system via a first communication protocol and the second communication module is configured to communicate with the second one of the at least two CHEs via a second communication protocol different from the first communication protocol.

3. The communication arrangement according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the second communication module is configured to transmit a message to said second one of the at least two CHEs indicating a position of said first CHE in the area.

4. The communication arrangement according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the second communication module is configured to at least one of
- transmit a message to the second one of the at least two CHEs indicating a request to said second one of the at least two CHEs to perform a specific task specified in said message or to acknowledge a specific information provided by said first CHE;
- transmit an acknowledgement of receipt of a message from said second one of the at least two CHEs to the second one of the at least two CHEs.

5. The communication arrangement according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the second communication module is configured to broadcast a request to the second one of the at least two CHEs for subsequent communication prior to transmitting the message to said second one of the at least two CHEs indicating the position.

6. The communication arrangement according to claim 4, wherein second communication module is configured to broadcast said request based on an evaluation of at least one position within the area or a section thereof, which will be occupied when performing a subsequent job of the plurality of job.

7. The communication arrangement according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the position comprises one of:
- a position at which said first CHE is about to or has entered the area;
- the current position of said first CHE while said first CHE is passing through a row;
- a position within said determined area said first one of the at least two CHEs is currently working in;
- a position not to be occupied for a certain period of time.

8. The communication arrangement according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the second communication module is configured to select said job based on selection criteria mitigating the probability of moving through or occupying container spots to be used by the first one and the second one of the at least two CHEs.

9. The communication arrangement according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the second communication module is configured to select said job based on the position of the second one of the at least two CHEs.

10. The communication arrangement according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the second communication module is configured to initiate movement of said first one of the at least two CHEs to a predetermined position based in response to a failure in communication with said second one of the at least two CHEs.

11. The communication arrangement according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the second module is configured to transmit at least one of an acknowledgement of successful receipt of the job sharing message and an acknowledgement of successful completion of the job sharing message.

12. The communication arrangement according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the first communication module is configured to transmit to the terminal operating system a message indicative of a successful execution of the job included in the job sharing message.

13. A communication system comprising:
- at least two container handling equipment CHE, each comprising the communication arrangement according to any one of the preceding claims and configured to operate in a determined area;
- a terminal operating system configured to transmit a first plurality of jobs to the first one of the at least two CHEs and a second plurality of jobs to the second one of the at least two CHEs.

14. Method of communicating between at least two container handling equipment CHEs operating within a determined area comprising a plurality of container spots arranged in a pluralities of rows and columns; the method comprising:
- Receiving, by a first CHE of the at least two CHEs, a message from a terminal operating system, said message including a plurality of jobs to be performed by the first CHE within said area, said plurality of jobs comprising instructions to move a container and identifying a container spot of the plurality of container spots;
- Receiving, by the first CHE, from a second CHE of the at least two CHEs within the determined area a request message to share a job of the plurality of jobs;
- Transmitting, by the first CHE, a message to said second CHE responsive to the request message to share a job, the first CHE being any one of the at least two CHEs.

15. The method according to claim 14, the method further comprising
- Transmitting a message to a second CHE of the at least two CHEs including a position of the first CHE in the area, said message being sent independent from the retrieved messages from the terminal operating system and/or manual triggering;

- Receiving an acknowledgment from the second CHE of the at least two CHEs in response to the transmitted message.

16. The method according to any of claims 14 to 15, wherein the message from the terminal operating system is retrieved using a first communication protocol and the message and acknowledgment between the first and second CHE is utilized by a second communication protocol different from the first communication protocol.

17. The method according to any of claims 14 to 16, the method further comprising at least one of:

- transmitting a request message from the first CHE of the at least two CHEs to the second CHE of the at least two CHEs to perform a specific task;

- transmit an acknowledgment of said request message to the first CHE of the at least two CHEs.

18. The method according to any of claims 14 to 17, the method comprising:
- broadcasting a request for subsequent transmission to at least the second CHE of the at least two CHEs prior to transmitting the message indicating a position or the message responsive to the request message to share a job.

19. The method according to claim 18, wherein the request is broadcast in response to an evaluation about at least one position within said area, which will be occupied when performing a subsequent job of the plurality of job.

20. The method according to any of claims 14 to 19, wherein the position comprises one of:
- a position at which the first CHE of the at least two CHEs is about to or has entered the determined area;
- the current position of the first CHE of the at least two CHEs while said first CHE is passing through a row;
- a position the first CHE of the at least two CHEs is currently working in;
- a position not to be occupied for a certain period of time.

21. The method according to any of the claims 14 to 20, wherein transmitting the message responsive to the request message to share a job comprises:
- transmitting the job sharing message, said job sharing message comprising a job to be performed by said second CHE, said job being a job of the plurality of jobs to be performed by the first CHE of the at least two CHEs.

22. The method according to any of claims 14 to 21, wherein the job sharing message is transmitted in response to a job share request message retrieved from the second CHE of the at least two CHEs.

23. The method according to any of claims 14 to 22, the method further comprising:
- selecting said job out of the plurality of job mitigating the probability of moving through or occupying container spots to be used by one of said CHE and the at least one other CHE.

24. The method according to claim 21, the method comprising:
- selecting said job out of the plurality of jobs based on the position of the second CHE of the at least two CHEs.

25. The method according to any of claims 14 to 24, the method further comprising at least one of:

- acknowledging to the first CHE receipt of the job sharing message;
- acknowledging to the first CHE successful completion of the job in the job sharing message; and
- transmitting to the terminal operating system a message indicative of a successful execution of the job in the job sharing message.