Claims

1. A beverage preparation system comprising:

a manipulator defining a working envelope and having an end-effector for positioning a container within the working envelope, the container for containing a beverage, the manipulator comprising a robotic arm defining a base;

a first dispenser for dispensing a solute and positionally configured with the manipulator to enable the container to be positioned for receiving the solute;

a second dispenser for dispensing a solvent and configured with the manipulator to enable the container to be positioned for receiving the solvent;

an agitator positionally configured with the manipulator to enable the container to be positioned for agitating of the solute and the solvent contained in the container thereby, the beverage comprising the solvent and the solute; and

a fourth dispenser for dispensing at least one of a plurality of ingredients, the fourth dispenser being configured with the manipulator to enable the container to be positioned for receiving the dispensed at least one of the plurality of ingredients, the beverage further comprising the dispensed at least one of the plurality of ingredients.

2. The beverage preparation system as in claim 1, the solute dispensed by the first dispenser being in at least one of liquid, powder, tablet, cream and gel form.

3. The beverage preparation system as in claim 2, one of amount and quantity of the solute dispensed into the container by the first dispenser being determined by one of a plurality of selectable concentration level.

4. The beverage preparation system as in claim 1, further comprising:

a third dispenser for dispensing additional liquid, the third dispenser being configured with the manipulator to enable the container to be positioned for receiving the dispensed additional liquid, the beverage further comprising the dispensed one of aerated and still liquid with the additional liquid being one of aerated and still liquid.

5. The beverage preparation system as in claim 4, the third dispenser comprising a pair of nozzles for dispensing liquids at different temperatures in a controlled proportion to thereby obtain the additional liquid at one of a plurality of selectable temperatures.

6. The beverage preparation system as in claim 1, the fourth dispenser comprising a plurality of hoppers, each of the plurality of ingredients being contained in and dispensed from one of the plurality of hoppers.

7. The beverage preparation system as in claim 1, further comprising:

a sealing machine positioned for receiving the container from the manipulator for sealing an opening of the container.

8. The beverage preparation system as in claim 7, further comprising:

a serving station for receiving the sealed container from the manipulator, the container being repositionable by the serving system to enable access thereto by a person.

9. The beverage preparation system as in claim 8, the serving station comprising:

a conveyor system for conveying the container from where the container is disposed by the manipulator to where it is accessible by the person.

10. The beverage preparation system as in claim 1, the manipulator further comprising:

at least one linear stage for supporting and positioning the base of the robotic arm, the robotic arm comprising at least one of a serial, prismatic, parallel and SCARA configuration.

11. The beverage preparation system as in claim 1, further comprising:

a container dispenser configured with the manipulator to and for presenting the container for access by the end-effector of the manipulator.

12. The beverage preparation system as in claim 1, further comprising a controller in signal communication with and for controlling operations of the manipulator, the first dispenser, the second dispenser and the agitator.

13. The beverage preparation system as in claim 1, further comprising a user-interface (UI) for capturing inputs from a user to select one of a plurality of preferences for the beverage thereto and for providing the selected one of the plurality of preferences to the controller in signal communication therewith.

14. A beverage preparation method comprising:

dispensing a solute into a container for containing a beverage by a first dispenser, the dispenser being positionally configured with a manipulator to enable the container to be positioned for receiving the solute, the manipulator comprising a robotic arm defining a base;

dispensing a solvent into the container by a second dispenser, the second dispenser being configured with the manipulator to enable the container to be positioned for receiving the solvent; and

agitating of the solute and the solvent contained in the container by an agitator being configured with the manipulator for positioning the container thereat, the beverage comprising the solvent and the solute; and

dispensing at least one of a plurality of ingredients from a fourth dispenser, the fourth dispenser being configured with the manipulator to enable the container to be positioned for receiving the dispensed at least one of the plurality of ingredients, the beverage further comprising the dispensed at least one of the plurality of ingredients.

15. A beverage preparation system comprising:

a first dispenser for dispensing a solute into a container being positioned for receiving the solute;

a manipulator comprising a robotic arm for positioning the container;

a second dispenser for dispensing a solvent into the container;

an agitator positionally configured with the container for agitating of the solute and the solvent contained in the container to thereby prepare a beverage comprising the solvent and the solute; and

a fourth dispenser for dispensing at least one of a plurality of ingredients, the fourth dispenser being configured with the manipulator to enable the container to be positioned for receiving the dispensed at least one of the plurality of ingredients, the beverage further comprising the dispensed at least one of the plurality of ingredients.,

wherein the fourth dispenser comprises a plurality of hoppers, each of the plurality of ingredients being contained in and dispensed from one of the plurality of hoppers.

16. The beverage preparation system as in claim 15, the solute dispensed by the first dispenser being in at least one of liquid, powder, tablet, cream and gel form,

wherein one of amount and quantity of the solute dispensed into the container by the first dispenser being determined by one of a plurality of selectable concentration level.

17. The beverage preparation system as in claim 15, further comprising:

a third dispenser for dispensing additional liquid, the third dispenser being configured with the manipulator to enable the container to be positioned for receiving the dispensed additional liquid, the beverage further comprising the dispensed one of aerated and still liquid with the additional liquid being one of aerated and still liquid.

18. The beverage preparation system as in claim 15, further comprising:

a container dispenser configured with the manipulator to and for presenting the container for access by the end-effector of the manipulator.

19. The beverage preparation system as in claim 15, further comprising:

a controller in signal communication with and for controlling operations of the manipulator, the first dispenser, the second dispenser and the agitator; and

a user-interface (UI) for capturing inputs from a user to select one of a plurality of preferences for the beverage thereto and for providing the selected one of the plurality of preferences to the controller in signal communication therewith.