

GUIDEWAY TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

Abstract

[0072] The present invention is a guideway transportation system for delivering goods or passengers from one point on a guideway system to another. A vehicle adapted for the present invention is capable of performing sharp turns on the guideways. The guideway system comprises a complex interconnected arrangement of guideways connecting to and branching from each other. The guideways are further adapted to allow the vehicles to turn off the guideways to stations which are sited immediately adjacent to the guideways. These stations are adapted to allow the vehicles to perform substantially right angle turns off the guideways into the station. In the station, passengers or goods may be embarked or disembarked. Following which, the vehicles can perform another substantially right angle turn out of the station onto the guideway. This advantageously allows for smaller stations along the guideways than previously envisioned with existing PRT systems. Furthermore, each station may allow several vehicles to turn off the guideway into the station. Another advantage is that the guideway does not get congested when vehicles stop to embark or disembark. The guideways are interconnected to each other at branch-off points. Each branch off point comprises at least two paths to follow, each path formed by a guideway. The vehicles of the present guideway transportation system are further adapted with an in-vehicle steering system permitting the vehicles to travel from one guideway to another connected guideway at a branch-off point.

[0073] FIG. 1 accompanies the abstract.