[0010] Additionally, galleys are bulky monuments, requiring a substantial amount of room aboard a craft. Their common location near the front of an aircraft cabin frequently necessitates that all passengers must walk through the galley while boarding the craft. This is problematic because the galley is intended for cabin crew use only and ideally should be maintained as a restricted area. Furthermore, it presents a bottle neck that impedes quick boarding.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0011] Accordingly, disclosed herein are improvements to trolleys over the drawbacks and limitations of existing trolleys. The following presents a simplified summary of some embodiments of the invention in order to provide a basic understanding of the invention. This summary is not an extensive overview of the invention. It is not intended to identify key/critical elements of the invention or to delineate the scope of the invention. Its sole purpose is to present some embodiments of the invention in a simplified form as a prelude to the more detailed description that is presented later.

[0011a] According to a first aspect of the invention, a system for heating or cooling at least some contents of a service trolley on a craft is provided, comprising at least one service trolley, the at least one service trolley comprising a container, a plurality of wheels attached with the container and configured to support the container relative to a support surface and to facilitate movement of the container relative to the support surface, and at least one fuel canister housed at least partially on or at least partially inside the container; and at least one docking station, the at least one docking station position located on the craft and configured to receive the at least one service trolley for heating or cooling of contents of the at least one service trolley, the at least one docking station position comprising at least one fuel cell system configured to receive fuel from the at least one fuel canister of the at least one service trolley, wherein the at least one docking station position further comprises at least one temperature regulating module configured to be powered by the at least one fuel cell system, the temperature regulating module configurable for at least one of cooling or heating contents of the at least one service trolley by a product from the at least one fuel cell system.

[0012] As an example embodiment, a service trolley is provided for use in a craft, such as a commercial passenger aircraft. The trolley can have a container attached to a plurality of wheels, whereby the wheels are configured to support the container relative to a support surface, such as the passenger deck of an aircraft. The wheels facilitate movement of the container relative to the support surface. The service trolley can further include a power source. The power source can be housed at least partially on or at least partially within the container, and the power source can be configured for providing power to at least one system of the trolley. These systems can be housed at least partially on or at least partially within the container.

[0013] The trolley can include a number of different systems, either individually or in combination with one another. For example, the trolley can include a drive-assist system configured to assist at least one of the plurality of wheels to turn to move the trolley. The trolley can include a braking system configured to resist turning of at least one of the plurality of wheels to resist movement of the trolley. Also, the trolley can include a heating system for heating at least some contents of the trolley, and the trolley can include a cooling system for cooling at least some contents of the trolley. Additionally, the trolley can include a drink dispensing system, and the trolley can

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system for heating or cooling at least some contents of a service trolley on a craft, the system comprising:

at least one service trolley, the at least one service trolley comprising a container ~~configurable to contain contents~~, a plurality of wheels attached with the container and configured to support the container relative to a support surface and to facilitate movement of the container relative to the support surface, and at least one ~~fuel cell system~~ fuel canister ~~configurable to provide fuel to a fuel cell system and~~ housed at least partially on or at least partially inside the container; and

at least one docking station, the at least one docking station position located on the craft and configured to receive the at least one service trolley for heating or cooling of contents of the at least one service trolley, ~~each~~ the at least one docking station position comprising at least one fuel cell system configured to receive fuel from the at least one fuel canister of the at least one service trolley, ~~the fuel cell system further configured to power at least one temperature regulating module~~, wherein ~~each~~ the at least one docking station position further comprises at least one temperature regulating module configured to be powered by ~~a~~ the at least one fuel cell system, the temperature regulating module configurable for at least one of cooling or heating contents of the at least one service trolley by ~~power~~ a product from the at least one fuel cell system.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein the at least one fuel cell system provides power to a galley of the craft.

3. The system of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the at least one fuel cell system provides power to a lower deck storage of the craft.

4. The system of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the ~~trolley~~ at least one fuel canister is removable.

5. The system of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the ~~trolley~~ at least one fuel canister is refillable.

6. The system of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the container comprises walls containing insulation.

7. The system of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the at least one docking station position is located in a cabin of the craft.

8. The system of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the at least one docking station position is located in a cargo bay of the craft.

9. The system of any one of the preceding claims, wherein ~~at least one service trolley~~ the container further comprises a power source housed at least partially on or at least partially within the container and configured for providing power to at least one system of the at least one service trolley housed at least partially on or at least partially within the container.

10. The system of claim 9, wherein the at least one system of the at least one service trolley comprises at least one of the group consisting of:

a drive-assist system configured to assist at least one of the plurality of wheels to turn to move the ~~trolley~~container;

a braking system configured to resist turning of at least one of the plurality of wheels to resist movement of the ~~trolley~~container;

a heating system for heating at least some contents of the at least one service trolley;

a cooling system for cooling at least some contents of the at least one service trolley;

a drink dispensing system; and

a system for processing fruit into juice.

11. The system of claim 9, wherein the power source comprises an onboard fuel cell system.

12. The system of claim 11, wherein the onboard fuel cell system of the power source comprises a replaceable fuel cartridge.

13. The system of claim 12, wherein the fuel cartridge for the onboard fuel cell system of the power source is refillable.

14. The system of claim 9, wherein the power source comprises an electrical energy storage device (EES).

15. The system of claim 14, wherein the EES is rechargeable.

16. The system of claim 15, wherein the EES is configurable for at least recharging from a fuel cell system.

17. The system of claim 15, wherein the EES is configurable for at least recharging from an electrical system of the craft.

18. The system of claim 17, wherein the at least one docking station position is configured to receive ~~at least one service trolley~~ the container for recharging the EES.