

JPods - Intelligent Transportation

Summary

JPods, computer controlled vehicles on ultra-light rails, provide personal automated mobility with the interior space of a car at a fraction of current energy use, real estate consumption, and congestion. Each JPod is equipped with a board computer. A touch screen allows the passenger to select the required destination station. The JPod travels the chosen route non-stop at a speed of around 50 km/h.

Background

FESTEL CAPITAL has been asked by JPods LLC to assist them in the commercialisation of their JPod technology in Europe. FESTEL CAPITAL is acting as exclusive commercialisation partner for Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

Description

A JPod is a small, efficient, safe, computer driven vehicle for transporting people and cargo. The JPod travels suspended from an overhead rail from station to station with no stops or transfers at a speed of around 50 km/h.



The load capacity depends on the type of vehicle. A standard people JPod can carry up to 4 passengers with a generous margin on normal weight and cargo JPods a standard pallet. Other specialty JPods transport passengers with wheelchairs or bicycles. With the JPod system passengers can travel 24 hours a day, 7 days a week with very little waiting time.

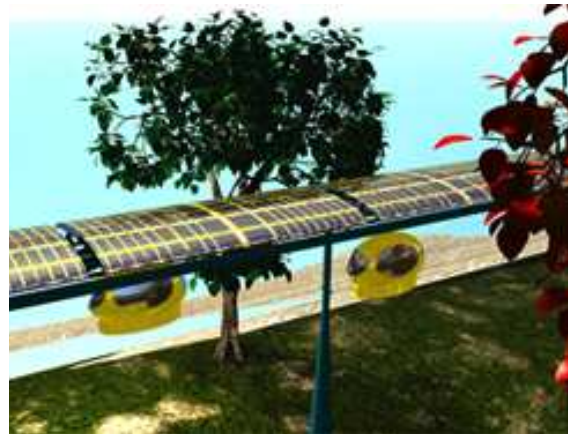
A JPod vehicle weighs around 205 kg and is built from lightweight, strong materials; aluminium and rigid composite fabrics and designed to endure extreme weather.

The JPod system requires very little land and can be constructed without any substantial disruption to the existing traffic pattern. The network can start very small and be expanded as required. Investment costs per km are estimated at around Euro 2 Million.



Power is supplied by the system to the JPod vehicles via power conductor cables supported from the rail support structure. These cables are totally enclosed by electrical insulation and can be touched without harm. The JPod vehicles receive power by the process of magnetic induction through pickup units that run about 6 mm from the conductor cables. All of this equipment is weatherproof. The power pickup unit and power converters within the JPod electronics produce voltages as needed for the DC motors and computer.

The ultra-light JPod vehicles make low density power sources practical. Solar panels mounted on JPod rails can generate 720 kw/1.6 km, enough to power 180 JPods.



The patented software allows the independently computer controlled JPods to commute with each other, make decisions and behave intelligently in a distributed collaborative network. Each JPod is equipped with a board computer with which the passenger selects the destination station.

Commercialisation Options

JPods LLC will sell physical products and software and also license access to its intellectual property. Possible commercialisation options include

1. Local Mobility Companies (LMC's): The sale of royalties and license rights to deploy and operate JPods networks in specific geographic regions and/or markets.

LMC's are privately owned or public-private partnerships working with all different types of community members; officials, neighbourhood groups, local government, and private capital, to receive the necessary approval to build and operate a JPods network. Each JPod network is a distinct operating entity. In any signed agreement, JPods LLC will provide the use of JPods patented Personal Automated Mobility (PAM) technology, technical assistance and the licensing of its software.

2. Mobility Alliance Partnerships (MAP's): License sponsors and manufacturing rights of JPods LLC's components.

JPods LLC is selling market advantage in exchange for cash and risk sharing. Selling strategic alliances will provide market advantage to industrial partners as the industry expands.

3. Rescue-Rail™ and Levee-Rescue™: Sale and leasing of temporary networks for special events and disasters.

JPods LLC develops and supplies temporary Rescue-Rail and Levee-Rescue systems. These are highly efficient, rapidly deployable JPods systems that are staged in warehouses and ready for quick installation. These JPods systems will be set up on existing railroad beds or highways to evacuate large numbers of people very quickly. They will also be used to ferry cargo and relief personnel into the emergency areas. They will span broken areas and collapsed bridges that will prevent conventional vehicles from traversing the obstacle.

For more detailed information, please visit the JPod website at www.jpods.com

Disclaimer

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About FESTEL CAPITAL

FESTEL CAPITAL is an advisory and investment firm focusing on the commercialisation of technologies in the areas of energy, environment, health, materials and nutrition.

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