



Atlas vehicles delivering carts to patient floors. GMH is a 2 million square feet facility with 1000 beds on the Hospital campus.

System Description

FMC Technologies ATLAS (Automated Transport & Logistics Integration System) is the most innovative automated transport system specifically engineered for the health care industry. The ATLAS is designed to transport everything from dietary and laundry to medical supplies and waste.

The ATLAS system is designed to pick up, carry and deliver carts from central distribution to the “user areas”, and also reverse the process by returning carts from remote areas to central distribution.

The process begins when an operator loads a cart with material at a designated center such as sterile linen or dietary. When the cart is fully loaded, the operator moves it to a set of detents in the floor. The detents are used to aide operators in repeatable, manual positioning of the cart for pickup. An overhead photo-eye detects the presence of the cart, signaling the central computer to prompt an operator to enter the cart destination at a local terminal. The operator is then free to load another cart.

Next, the central computer locates the nearest available vehicle and sends it to pick up the cart. The vehicle is automatically directed under the cart, raises its deck, picks the cart up off the floor, and travels to its destination.

When the vehicle and cart arrive at the destination, the vehicle drives over an empty set of detents, lowers the cart onto the detents, and moves on to its next pickup location. The central computer then alerts operator of the cart arrival via a local “cart present” light or chime.

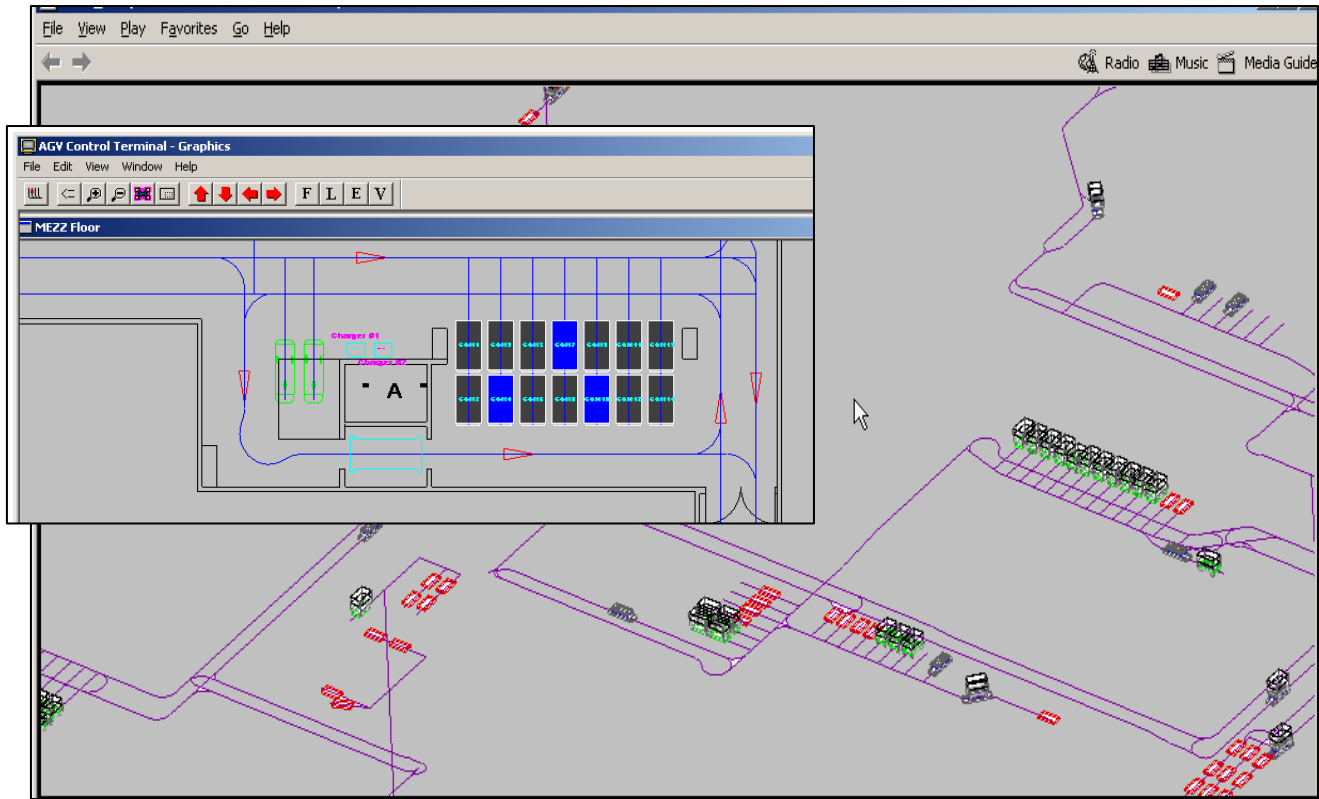
After the cart is unloaded, the operator returns it to the empty detents. The central computer then sends a vehicle to pick up the cart for redeployment from the central distribution area and the cycle is repeated over and over again. AGVs support over 1000 daily movement order from Host and user floor terminals.

Features

Date Installed:	1991
Vehicle Type:	ATLAS- Unit Load
Number of Vehicles:	21 (+ 5 AGV- Phase 5)
Application Description:	Material Handling
Industry Description:	Hospital
Host Computer Controls:	DEC MicroVax Duplex System
Guidance Method:	Wire Guided System
Load Description:	Transport Hospital Carts, Carrying Linen, Surgical Supplies, Dietary, & Trash

Benefits

- Reduced labor and inventory costs
- Improved personnel safety
- Improved inventory tracking
- Timely material delivery
- Eliminate time wasted looking for supplies



System Controls

2 DEC MicroVax Host Computers with Automatic Failover Capability

New Control Terminal Graphical Interface

- Remote access modem support
- System diagnostics

1 Cypex communications network:

- Wire guidance even in elevators
- Multiple panels for easier diagnostics

1 I/O Network to monitor elevator doors & floor detents

1 Data Terminal Network to send & receive orders

1 ATLIS vehicles travel underground for safety and speed.

2 ATLIS vehicles enter and leave elevators automatically, one side isolated for clean items and the opposite side for soiled.

3 ATLIS vehicles deliver and Pick up trash station and linen station.

4 ATLIS vehicles deliver and pick up at dietary

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