primary power source **16** to the secondary rechargeable batteries **34** placed in the third charging ports **18***c*. The third charging ports **18***c* are configured as different forms of connectors in order to provide or transfer power to different types of components than the first and second charging ports **18***a*, **18***b*. In an embodiment, the charging station **10** includes eight (8) third charging ports **18***c*, but it should be understood by one skilled in the art that the charging station **10** can include any number of third charging ports **18***c*.

[0025] Although the exemplary embodiment shown in FIGS. **1-2** and described herein includes three separate and distinct types of charging ports, it should be understood by one having ordinary skill in the art that the charging station **10** can include any number of different types and forms of connectors for the charging ports **18**, depending on the various types of implements or tools intended to receive power from the primary power source **16**.

[0026] In an embodiment, the charging station **10** further includes a retractable charging cord **36** which allows the primary power source **16** to be operatively and electrically connected to a home outlet or receptacle so as to charge/recharge the primary power source **16**, as shown in FIG. **3**. The primary power source **16** is rechargeable, which allows the charging station **10** to provide a mobile power source (by way of the first or second charging ports **18***a*, **18***b*) or a mobile recharging source (by way of the third charging ports **18***c*). The power cord **36** allows a user to recharge the primary power source **16** of the charging station **10** during a time when the charging station **10** is not needed using conventional home outlets. In another embodiments, shown in FIG. **4**, the charging station **10** also includes a secondary cord **38** that can be plugged into an automobile receptacle that can recharge the primary power source **16** by way of a trickle charge while driving. Although a trickle charge through the secondary cord **38** is not expected to fully recharge the primary power source **16** on trips between worksites, the trickle charge can provide at least some amount of refreshing charge to the primary power source **16** to allow the primary power source **16** to last even longer during a workday. The recharged primary power source **16** can then, in turn, provide recharging power to the first, second, and third charging ports **18***a*, **18***b*, **18***c*. In another embodiment, the charging station **10** additionally includes a removable solar panel **40** that is operatively and electrically connected to the primary power source **16** to provide additional recharging to the primary power source **16**, as shown in FIG. **5**. The solar panel **40** can be attached to either the housing **12** or to a worktruck or other vehicle, which allows the primary power source **16** to be recharged even when the primary power source is providing electrical power to the charging ports **18**. In another embodiment, the solar panel **40** is configured to recharge a separate primary power source **16** that is not onboard the charging station **10** while the charging station **10** is being used on a worksite. The primary power source **16** is removable and exchangeable, such that if the primary power source becomes sufficiently discharged during the day, the replacement primary power source **16** can be switched with one that has been charged by the solar panel(s) **40**.

[0027] As explained above, the primary power source **16** is operatively and electrically connected to each of the charging ports **18**, including the first charging port **18***a*, the second charging ports **18***b*, and the third charging ports **18***c*, as shown in the schematic diagram of FIG. **3**. Each of the charging ports **18** is connected to the primary power source **16** by way of a controller **17**. The controller **17** is configured to convert—where necessary—the electrical power from the primary power source **16** to the proper type of power utilized by each of the charging ports **18**. The controller **17** is also configured to convert—where necessary—the electrical power from the charging source (power cord **36**, secondary cord **38**, or solar panel **40**) to the primary power source **16**. The controller **17** is also configured to measure and track the amount of power remaining and/or discharged from the primary power source **16**. This measured amount of remaining power in the primary power source **16** can then be displayed by way of a user interface on positioned in the housing **12** or by way of a handheld device **52**, as explained below.

[0028] In the embodiment shown in FIG. **6**, the controller **17** within the housing **12** of the charging station **10** is operatively connected to a signal generator **50** configured to generate an output wireless signal. The wireless signal is receivable by a handheld device **52**, such as a tablet computer, a smartphone, laptop computer, or other device capable of receiving the signal from the signal generator **50** and providing an output display of the information provided in the wireless signal. The output wireless signal can include information such as current power level of the primary power source **16**, a warning once the primary power source **16** goes below a pre-determined power level, the number and type of charging port **18** currently being utilized, the ratio or amount of power used by each of the different types of (or each individual) charging ports **18**, estimated amount of time remaining on the charge of the primary power source **16**, or any other information that can be useful to an operator. The handheld device **52** receiving the output wireless signal can include an application that is configured to cooperate with the controller **17** and signal generator **50** of the charging station **10** in order to send and receive information for the charging station **10**. The handheld device **52** utilizes the on-board application to provide a user interface to display the information from the controller **17** as well as provide operator feedback to the controller **17**. The controller **17** can provide real-time performance data from the charging station **10**, which also allows the operator to receive immediate feedback warnings from the charging station **10**. In an embodiment, the application on the handheld device **52** can allow an operator to control the charging characteristics of the third charging ports **18***c* such as controlling whether the recharging of the secondary batteries **34** is done in an expedited manner or over an extended time period.

[0029] In another embodiment, the controller **17** and the application on the handheld device **52** can work in cooperation with the signal generator **50** (or separately therefrom) to provide a global positioning system (GPS) signal that allows an owner of the charging station to track the location of the charging station **10** if it becomes stolen.

[0030] In operation, the user plugs the charging station **10** into a home wall outlet, an automobile power outlet (while the automobile is running), and/or the solar panel **40** in order to recharge the primary power source **16**. Once the primary power source **16** is fully charged (or even if it is only partially charged), the user can transport the charging station **10** to a location that is not dependent upon a home outlet or the like for power. The charging station **10** provides both a mobile power supply—even acting as a substitute for a