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Subject: Connection on TrackBegin and TrackEnd  
Posted by [Torben Brand](#) on Tue, 08 Mar 2016 12:26:48 GMT  
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Since this is my first forum post (finally) I will give a short introduction to myself. My name is Torben Brand and I am the railML coordinator for the Norwegian national rail administration, Jernbaneverket. I primarily work as a railway capacity engineer. Here I work a lot with the railML programs Opentrack, Treno and Viriato. As a half German I also speak fluent German.

My issue is the following:

Sometimes you have to split a track in two graphically. For instance due to the display or sheet size, you have to continue on a new row below. I will refer to this as a visual connector from now on. In railML today this would generate two tracks. This makes the model unnecessary complex and less human readable.

I propose to handle this visual connector in the visualization in railML, instead of splitting the track.

Suggestions to solutions could be:

- 1) Allowing for two positions under <trackElementVis>. The programs would have to interpret this as a visual connector.
- 2) Allowing for two positions under <trackElementVis> with a new child element <ConnectorVis> to indicate that it's a visual connector.
- 3) Having two identical references <trackElementVis> with two different <positions>. This combined with suggestion 1. or 2.
- 4) If double positions or double references in <trackElementVis> are not to be allowed. Then use either the <trackElement> child <geoMappings> or a new child element <trackConVis> in combination with another <trackElement> child with a length of 0 meters between them to describe the track elements of the visual connector. A new child element <ConnectorVis> under <trackElementVis> will indicate that it's a visual connector and there should not be drawn a track between them.

I am looking forward to vivid discussions on this matter... ;-)

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Subject: Re: Connection on TrackBegin and TrackEnd  
Posted by [christian.rahmig](#) on Fri, 08 Apr 2016 13:53:42 GMT  
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Hello Torben,

Am 09.03.2016 um 14:17 schrieb Torben Brand:

- > Since this is my first forum post (finally) I will give a
- > short introduction to myself. My name is Torben Brand and I
- > am the railML coordinator for the Norwegian national rail
- > administration, Jernbaneverket. I primarily work as a
- > railway capacity engineer. Here I work a lot with the railML
- > programs Opentrack, Treno and Viriato. As a half German I
- > also speak fluent German.

Welcome to the railML forum!

- > My issue is the following:
- > Sometimes you have to split a track in two graphically. For
- > instance due to the display or sheet size, you have to
- > continue on a new row below. I will refer to this as a
- > visual connector from now on. In railML today this would
- > generate two tracks. This makes the model unnecessary
- > complex and less human readable.
- > I propose to handle this visual connector in the
- > visualization in railML, instead of splitting the track.
- >
- > Suggestions to solutions could be:
- > 1) Allowing for two positions under <trackElementVis>. The
- > programs would have to interpret this as a visual
- > connector.
- > [...]

The main problem we are facing with all your suggested solutions is that the infrastructure visualization branch has been marked deprecated with railML version 2.2. However, we have to find a solution for the use case you described. How this solution may look like, can be discussed with the community here and at our next railML.org meeting. I am interested in your opinions.

Thank you very much and best regards  
Christian

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Christian Rahmig  
railML.infrastructure coordinator

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