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Subject: [railML2] Extension proposal: Stopping point reference for elements not of type <stopPost>

Posted by [Janne Möller](#) on Tue, 13 Oct 2020 12:17:28 GMT

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Dear railML-community,

The attribute @stopPostRef in element <stopDescription> refers to the associated <stopPost> element where the train will stop. In Norway we often have the case that there is no stop post at the position where a train should stop. Instead the train stops at other elements, for example a signal or a switch. That is why we need to refer to an element of a different type than <stopPost> under <stopDescription>. Therefore, we introduced the attribute @nor:stopRef in railML2.4nor. We use this attribute to refer to the associated element if it is not of type <stopPost>. Are there any railML-users who might find this useful?

Any feedback is highly appreciated.

Best regards,  
Janne Möller  
Jernbanedirektoratet

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Subject: Re: [railML2] Extension proposal: Stopping point reference for elements not of type <stopPost>

Posted by \_\_\_\_\_ on Wed, 28 Oct 2020 09:52:24 GMT

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Hello Janne,

I can understand the background to your extensions in general. I'm not an infrastructure expert, but from my point of view I have two comments on this:

- The element <stopPost> provides an attribute "virtual". According to the description in the railML-Wiki, it can be used to defines stop positions for which there is no physical stop post on the track. If your usecase is only about specifying the stopping position of a train, this would be possible with this attribute.
- If you want to indicate explicitly that the train stops at a certain infrastructure element (signal / switch) and the reference to this element is important, the above solution is probably not an alternative for you. But I would prefer not to use a generic attribute for references to all possible infrastructure elements, because references to elements are (as far as I can see) always type-specific in railML2. Instead, I would provide one separate attribute or element per element type (signalRef, switchRef and so on). The usage of an element would have the advantage that additional element-specific information could be included, e.g. on which end of a switch the train should stop exactly.

Kind regards  
Christian Rößiger

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Subject: Re: [railML2] Extension proposal: Stopping point reference for elements  
not of type <stopPost>

Posted by [Janne Möller](#) on Mon, 23 Nov 2020 07:47:30 GMT

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Dear Christian,

Thank you very much for your comments! We will switch to using virtual stop posts instead of the extension.

Best regards,  
Janne Möller  
Jernbanedirektoratet

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