Subject: [railML3] Need to specify "Stock rail joint" as position point for switch
Posted by Morten Johansen on Thu, 08 Sep 2022 12:49:52 GMT
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The Norwegian railway traditionally uses the "stock rail joint" as position point when dealing with switches as spot objects. The linear position of switches has been based on "stock rail joint" both in document based documentation and in ICT systems up to now.

As there is no value expressing "stock rail point" int the value set for @referencePont today, and @referencePoint is as mandatory attribute (ref. railML3 wiki) we have a challenge in beeing able to export our infrastructure data in the railML3.2 format.

There is another aspect that in newer ICT systems like ETCS and modern systems for analyzing maintenance needs etc, switches are required to be positioned at the "tongue tip". This means that we need to be able to give information on which position point is used as position point for a given switch if it is either on the "stock rail joint" or the "tongue tip".

As as ICT-system importing a railML file not necessarily use the same position point as the system creating the file as an export, we in addition need to be able to give the distance between the "stock rail joint" and the "tongue tip".

On possible solution to our needs could be to define and reserve the @referencePoint value switchBegin to mean "tongue tip", as that is the point where the deviating track starts, and make a new legal value eg. stockRailPoint for the position point "stock rail point". The length from the "stock rail point" to the "tongue tip" could be given as a new attribute eg. @"enteringLength" or sth.

Is this a challenge also for other infrastructure managers?