Subject: request for an attribute for the Infrastructure Manager of a line Posted by on Wed, 23 May 2012 12:57:03 GMT

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Dear all,

in RailML 2.0, we used the attributes <trackGroups>.<line>.uicNumber and <trackGroups>.<line>.lineNumber to uniqely describe a railway line of infrastructure. In RailML 2.1, there is the new attribute <trackGroups>.<line>.code as the only possibility for an external primary key of a line.

In practice, the Infrastructure Managers give their lines numbers or names/abbreviations but so far there is no international unique key for a line. Therefore, it is necessary to add the In-frastructure Manager's key to the primary key of a line.

If we would put both into 'code', e. g. code='80.6363' or 'DB.6363', this would mean to 'scan' the code when importing infrastructure or a timetable. It is one of the agreed principles of RailML to avoid known 'scanning' of strings due to all the problems which comes along (for instance to force a unique separating character between IM code and line number). Therefore, we (iRFP) cannot import RailML 2.1 because we refuse to scan the 'code'.

I think we should introduce attributes

- clearly to define the Infrastructure Manager of a line separated from 'code',

- to define the key (number or abbreviation) of the line at this IM which may be 'code'.

This means: Christian, please provide one new attribute 'IM', string, or analogous.

Best regards, Dirk.

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