
Subject: Identification in the XML list files and its references (was: small issues on "register" and "tLineInfrastructureManagerCode")

Posted by [Susanne Wunsch railML](#) on Thu, 06 Dec 2012 10:29:03 GMT

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Dear Dirk, Christian and others,

I would like to discuss the general content structure of the separate XML list file in the 'misc' forum, because it concerns all sub-schemas.

The separate XML list files should be an easier to maintain replacement for schema-internal enumeration lists.

I will change the already proposed example a bit taking care of the parallel discussion about attribute- or element-centric XML styles. Please don't discuss this issue here. The following XML structure may be easily changed into an attribute-centric one, if that comes as consensus from the neighbouring thread.

```
<registers xmlns="http://www.railml.org/lists">
  <register id="d1e3">
    <version code="ENEE">
      <name>European Railway Location Database</name>
      <validity/>
      <remarks/>
    </version>
  </register>
  <register id="d1e51">
    <version code="RL100">
      <name>Richtlinie 100</name>
      <validity begin="xxxx"/>
      <remarks/>
    </version>
    <version code="DS100">
      <name>Drucksache 100</name>
      <validity begin="1951" end="xxxx"/>
      <remarks/>
    </version>
    <version code="DV100">
      <name>Dienstvorschrift 100</name>
      <validity end="1951"/>
      <remarks/>
    </version>
  </register>
</registers>
```

* Each register would be identified by a file-wide unique 'id' attribute.

* Each version of a register would be identified by a domain-specific 'code' attribute. This is not a unique string.

The purpose of this list is to constraint the strings for the same register name, e.g.

recommend "RL100",
not to use "Ril100", "KoRil100", "Ril 100"...

But how to use it?

For the following code snippets the <ocp> context is assumed.

* Should a railML file be meaningful without this list file?

That would mean to refer to the /meaningful/ 'code' value, that is not unique.

```
<designator register="RL100" entry="..."/>
```

* Should a railML file be meaningful only with knowledge of the list file, only in cases, where its attributes are used?

That would mean to refer to the __unique__ but not /meaningful/ 'id' value.

```
<designator registerRef="registers.xml#d1e51" entry="..."/>
```

* Should both possibilities be provided? If the list file is present, it may be looked up for further details, if not, the value is /meaningful/ anyway.

That would mean to refer to both values.

```
<designator register="RL100" registerRef="registers.xml#d1e51" entry="..."/>
```

Any comments, questions, concerns, +1, -1 ... appreciated.

Kind regards...
Susanne

Crosspost & Followup-To: railML.misc

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