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Subject: Re: infrastructureVisualization in railML 2.2?  
Posted by [Christian Rahmig](#) on Wed, 06 Nov 2013 21:13:56 GMT  
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Dear Bob,

On 04.09.2013 16:40, Bob Janssen wrote:

- > Hello Thomas,
- > I'm not over the moon with the present visualisation model either. I'm
- > however convinced that visualisation is important for two reasons:
- > 1. a visual representation of the infrastructure helps both the modeller
- > and the user. This is highly useful for gaining acceptance of RailML.
- > RailML can go the GIS-way. Lack of visualisation makes for a very opaque
- > tool.
- > 2. often, multiple plans, maps, schemas are linked with an infrastructure.
- > E.g. there's a track plan of a station for maintenance purpose and another
- > schema of the same station for dispatching. Both refer to the very same
- > infrastructure. It is helpful to associate more than one set of
- > coordinates with infrastructure. So, in my opinion, it is great if we can
- > link an object with several coordinates. This actually reduces the
- > probability there are multiple discordant plans floating around.
- >
- > concluding - visualisation is important but the XSD needs some
- > improvement.

thank you very much for sharing your thoughts on the visualisation model. Indeed, an infrastructure can be transferred in a number of different graphical representations. Some of these representations are easy to create directly from the infrastructure data e.g. by using the geo-coordinates. There has been also an approach for generating topological map representations from the railML topology data [1]. In general, the question about which aspects of a graphical representation have to be explicitly defined and which are implicitly given in the data, is not easy to answer. In this case, we also rely on the feedback and the requests of the users of the infrastructure visualisation branch.

[1]

[http://documents.railml.org/events/slides/2012-11-14\\_dlr\\_bur\\_khardt-railml-viewer.pdf](http://documents.railml.org/events/slides/2012-11-14_dlr_bur_khardt-railml-viewer.pdf)

Best regards

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Christian Rahmig  
railML.infrastructure coordinator

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