Fit4Freight Meeting Minutes: ATLAS Service Presentation

Meeting Details 📇

- **Date**: 17 June 2025

- **Meeting**: UIC Freight Department - Data Exchange Competence Center

- **Topic**: Introduction of ATLAS Location Code Management Service

Executive Summary 🚂

The UIC Freight Department hosted a comprehensive presentation on the ATLAS service, a groundbreaking platform for standardizing and managing railway location codes across Europe. The session highlighted the critical challenges in location code management and introduced a centralized solution that promises to streamline data exchange for railway undertakings.

Key Presenters 👥

- **Parinaz Bazeghi**: Senior Advisor at UIC

- **Tom Thijs**: Enterprise Architect – Lineas – Chairman of UIC DIUM Working group

- **Philip Van den bosch**: UIC Freight Department Organizer

Background Context 🌐

Existing Challenges in Location Code Management

Prior to ATLAS, railway location code management faced several significant issues:

- Multiple railway undertakings (RUs) creating different codes for the same location in CRD.

- Manual, time-consuming Excel-based management

- Lack of a centralized, standardized approach

- Difficulties in data exchange and interpretation

ATLAS Service Overview 🗺️

Core Objectives

- Harmonize and centralize RUs location code data in the freight sector

- Enable efficient data exchange between railway undertakings

- Implementation of TAF TSI

Technical Framework

ATLAS contains master data about stations, include location coding, operational references of RUs in each station, relation between stations and loading points, distances to the border points.

ATLAS translates legacy codes to TAF-TSI (Technical Specifications for Interoperability) framework, focusing on:

- Primary Location Codes (PLCs)

- Subsidiary Location Codes (SLCs)

- Centralized Reference Database (CRD) integration

Key Features of ATLAS 🔍

Data Management Capabilities

- Centralized location code repository

- Conflict resolution mechanism

- API-based data submission

- Automatic quality checks

- Seamless CRD integration (download and upload)

Supported Location Code Types

- Loading Points (SLC 37)

- Border Points (SLC 03)

- DIUM Stations (SLC 42)

User Access and Subscription Models 💻

ATLAS Pro Track

- **Target Users**: Railway Undertakings and Infrastructure Managers

- **Features**:

  o 3 company accounts

  o 1 API connection account

  o Location code management

  o Quality control

  o Direct CRD cross check and feeding

ATLAS Connect

- **Target Users**: Non-RU stakeholders
- **Features**:
    - 1 user account
    - Access to location data
    - Yearly subscription model

Future Development Roadmap 🚀

Planned Enhancements

- Incorporate SLC 36 location codes
- Improve API functionality
- Enhance conflict resolution mechanisms
- Expand user base and data coverage

Pricing and Accessibility 💰

- PDF data downloads: Free of charge
- Active location code management: Subscription-based
- Open to both UIC and non-UIC members
- Minimal subscription cost covering maintenance and development

Next Steps and Upcoming Events 📅

Fit for Freight Spring Session

- **Date**: 17 July 2025
- **Focus**:
    - New corridor evolutions
    - RAC roles in upcoming 10T regulation
- **Registration**: Available via UIC Freight website

Conclusion 🤝

ATLAS represents a significant step towards standardizing and simplifying location code management in the European railway freight sector. By providing a centralized, collaborative platform, it addresses long-standing challenges in data exchange and interoperability.

Contact Information 🪧

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Note: Detailed presentation slides will be available on the Fit for Freight web page.