From: George Coulouris
To: Abigail Grenfell, ORR
Sent: Fri 13/05/2011 18:17
Subject: Response to: "Amending licences to give passengers the information they need to plan and make journeys – a consultation"

I'd like to comment as a frequent rail passenger and as the developer of a transport-related web application.

My thinking is in line with those expressed in this blog:

What could you do with open railway data?
http://www.systemed.net/blog/index.php?post=17

This envisages the availability of train timetables and train running information as open data.

The uses of the data go far beyond anything that the ATOC have conceived or are likely to conceive. Those uses will be far more beneficial to the economy and to society than the current limited licensed use. They will probably even be more beneficial to the TOCs. Are they paranoid about anyone discovering the real statistics on late-running? If so they don't deserve the public subsidy that they receive. In fact it's not justifiable for organisations so heavily subsidised from the public purse to retain the information under such tight control.

George Coulouris