Dear Sir,

I wish to comment on realtime train information.

I believe that this data and all associated feeds for this service (especially the DARWIN system) should be in the hands of public ownership and distribution and not ATOC.

I believe that realtim information should be used for the benefit of customers without hindrance. Information should be publically available without so many restrictive conditions governing its use. It is absolutely wrong that an organisation such as ATOC holds developers to ransom for its own financial gains. The public are the customers – access to this information should be owned and operated by the government not a profit making collective of operating companies which is what ATOC is.

In my own experience using realtime bus data, allowing developers to use this information has a big boon for the travelling public and provided ease of access to information. An example of this is found at the TFL countdown site – this has been a massive boon to the travelling public and should be used as an example of how this data should (and could) be used to positive benefit and on a not-for-profit basis (http://countdown.tfl.gov.uk/).

Further info – read this: https://mocko.org.uk/b/2013/02/22/you-cant-use-the-live-uk-train-data-without-accepting-a-gagging-clause/

Regards,

Stuart Rigby