Rail Delivery Group

National Rail

September 2022

Rail Data Marketplace

Welcome to your round up of news related to the Rail Data Marketplace (RDM). If at any time you wish to unsubscribe, email us at raildatamarketplace@raildeliverygroup.com.

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Programme Update

The Rail Data Marketplace (RDM) has seen some significant developments over the summer which are pivotal to the delivery of the service. We have agreed a domain name to use and have chosen 'Raildata.org.uk' and thank you to all those that voted in the last newsletter. It was an important milestone for the RDM to get agreement on a domain name as we have now started to build and configure our development and production environments.

As we are approaching our Minimal Viable Product (MVP) Launch, the team and our suppliers are working collaboratively to ensure that we are well prepared. We have completed the first three development sprints which are currently undergoing rigorous testing. Additionally, as we are getting closer to the MVP launch it is essential that we are making potential consumers and publishers aware of what Rail Data Marketplace is about and the opportunity this presents. We have instigated a communication plan to raise awareness and encourage participation across multiple channels including conferences, speaking opportunities, press releases, regular 'shown & tells' as well as planning interactive initiatives such as hackathons.

We are also building our long-term delivery team with a QA Tester already having joined and a Service Delivery Manager and Content Designer joining shortly. These roles are important as we move into live running in 2023, and we are excited to have them on board.

It would be great to see some of you and hear what you think about our ambitions for a Rail Data Marketplace, or feel free to email us. We would also be interested to hear your thoughts or feedback by emailing us at raildatamarketplace@raildeliverygroup.com.

Vote on Strapline

The Rail Data Marketplace is actively embarking on a communication plan to highlight the opportunities this initiative will create for both publishers and consumers and ultimately the rail industry. We are now trying to come up with a pithy one-liner to describe what the RDM is. We would welcome your thoughts on the Rail Data Marketplace strapline so please do take a minute and vote here.

Data Marketplaces are growing in number and scope of the data sources they contain. But what sorts of metrics should a data publisher be aware of before they commit their data source?

Volume: Requests per minute (RPM) in total

This is the maximum number of requests per specific time period that each data source can cope with (without degrading or failing). Note: sometimes Requests per Second (RPS) is also used, especially in high throughput scenarios.

Volume: Requests per minute / second (RPM) per Data Consumer

This is the maximum number of requests that can be allocated (e.g. throttled) to each Data Consumer. This can only be equal to or less than the Volume total [see above].

Availability: Percentage service uptime

This is the amount of time the data source is guaranteed to be available (even if historically it has been available for longer), regardless of the volume of requests. Data Publishers need to realistically consider how much time they would need to fully restore their service in the event of a disaster / complete system failure - a metric known as the Recovery Time Objective (RTO). e.g. a 99.99% availability SLA means the service can only be down for a maximum of 4 minutes & 22 seconds a month - https://uptime.is/99.99

To read the full article, please click here.

Product Development

This sprint, our dev team prepared the majority of fields needed to publish a data product. The Publish Flow wizard has been created (including tagging and data themes), as well as the logged in and logged out views of the Data Catalogue. We have also built the RDM Admin review screen for new Org registration requests. All of this has laid the foundation for the next sprint, where we will enable the entire publish flow for non-chargeable products.

Get Involved

The Rail Data Marketplace is at an exciting stage as we migrate the tested user stories from the Axure prototype to the live platform. The creation of a prototype was incredibly useful, but seeing that reflected in a production system with all of the backend functionality is a real milestone.

We continue with our programme of user research through Autumn 2022 and are keen to get as many organisations and individuals involved as we further develop the offering. There is much functionality still to design, from user commenting and rating of data to community forums which can support collaboration. We would like to get as many diverse views as possible to ensure what we ultimately build meets user needs. If you are keen to contribute to the evolution of the platform, please do get in touch and register your interest.

We will also be doing monthly 'show and tells' of the actual platform as more functionality is delivered. If you would like to see what the platform will look like, you would need to sign a very brief NDA and we will invite you to one of the sessions.

We already have an interesting and diverse range of data sets lined up for testing in the Private Beta phase which will begin in late October 2022. If you are interested in becoming either a data publisher or a data consumer in our Private Beta, then please get in touch with us.

We plan to be Live and in the public domain by early Spring 2023. We intend to expand those initial data sources with a pipeline of data from an array of publishers, directly from within the rail industry and other external data sets that could improve the customer experience and/or operational efficiency.

To get involved please mail: contact us: raildatamarketplace@raildeliverygroup.com

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Events Update

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Events	Date	Event	Location
1	26-30/09/22	Data Connect 2022	Virtual org by Cabinet Office
2	11/10/2022	RIA Data Group	RIA Offices
3	7-8/11/22	Digital Rail 2022	Twickenham
4	09-10/11/22	Transport Innovation Summit	Twickenham
5	10-11 Nov	RIA Annual Conference	Park Plaza London Riverbank
6	16-18/11/ 22	World Passenger Festival	Amsterdam
7	6/12/2022	Smartex Smart Ticketing and Transport Dev	Browns, Covent Garden 9-3
8	7/12/2022	RIA Unlocking Innovation	Birmingham Centre for Railway Research and Education, UKRRIN Building, University of Birmingham
9	Mar-23	Accelerate Rail	London
10	28/29/03/23	RIA Innovation Conference	Nottingham
11	21-22/06/23	Move 2023	ExCeL, London