Portal timetable rule documentation

The « Portal timetable rule » enables to define one or several entries with portal train emit parameters setting for each entry. You can choose a train configuration (vehicle choice or reference to a surveyor saved consist), the portal to use and a list of timetable schedule in a 24 hour cycle. In Driver mode, when the clock reaches one of the timetable schedule, the rule will make the defined portal emit the defined train configuration.

The rule has been made to help scenario writer to get specific train at specified time outgoing from a specific portal.

1. Rule description

Author : GUY Pierre (61392)

Kuid : <kuid2:61392:2002:1>

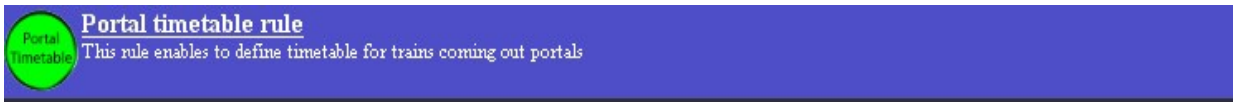
available on DLS since 15/12/2007

2. Required components

No required component is needed by this rule.

3. Rule banner

When you select in Surveyor the portal timetable rule, you get the following banner under the surveyor interface :



4. Parameters setup

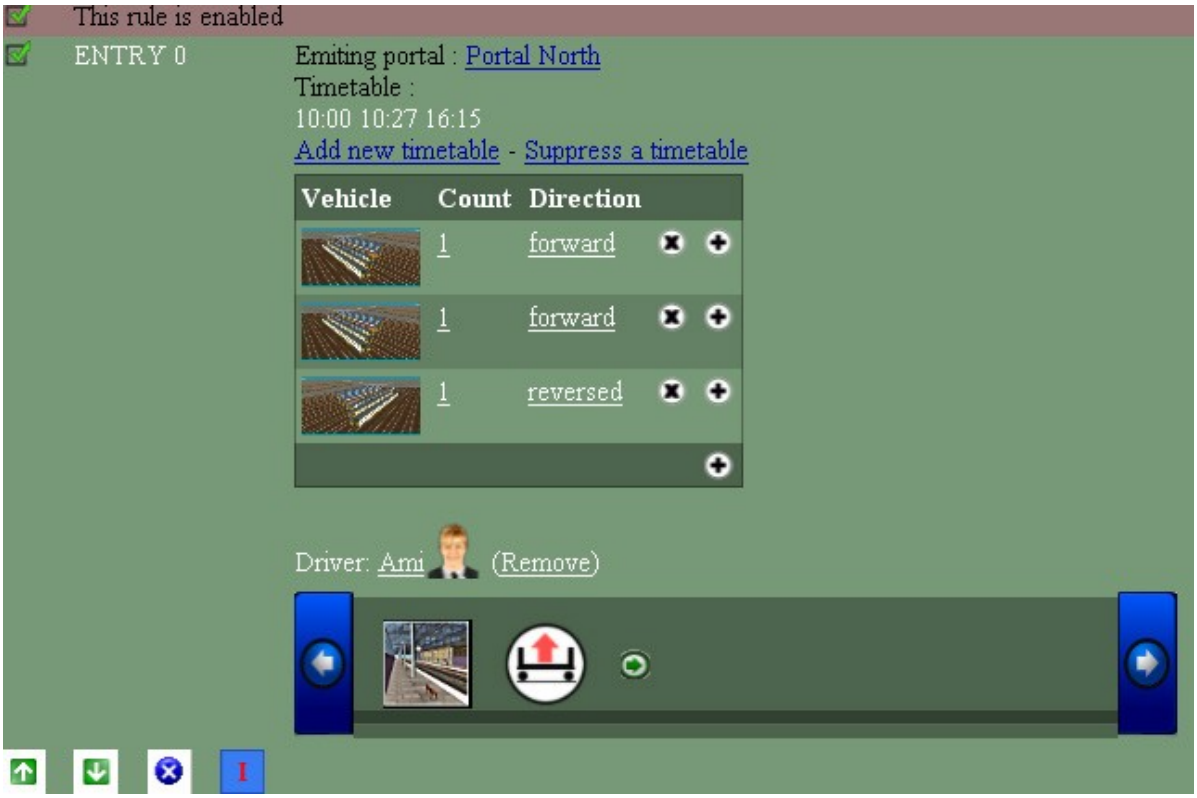
Select the Portal timetable rule banner and click on the modify button in surveyor, you get the html display shown below :

- at the top, you get a check box for enabling/disabling all the rule entries; This option can be usefull to keep all the rule entries parameters setup while disabling all the entries.
- then you have one or more entry(ies). For each entry you get :
  - a check box to enable / disable the entry.
  - the name of the emiting portal
  - a list of time for outgoing trains in a 24 hour cycle
  - the consist vehicle definition
  - the driver name to use
  - a bar order of initial driver commands for the new train driver to use just after train emition

- to enable or disable an entry, just click on the enable / disable check box.
- when you click on the portal to use name (initially #no portal#) a list of all available portal in the route is displayed for selection.
- when you click on Add new timetable you will be asked to enter the new timetable as a string. You enter the time as an absolute time in a 24 hour cycle.
  for example : 10:04 or 16:15 or 23:58
- when you click on Suppress a timetable a list of all the times entered in the timetable is displayed and you can select the time to suppress from the timetable.
- the vehicle – count – direction area is the same standard trainz interface as portal paremeter setup. When you click on the + sign, you will get a list of all available vehicle and you can choose the vehicle you want to add. You can then edit the vehicle entry to modify the count number and the direction. You can suppress a vehicle defintion entry by clicking on the X sign.
- you can also select a surevyor consist definition by clicking on add an existing saved consist . When used it will show a selection list of all saved consist.
- the add driver to consist link enables to choose a driver to drive the train when emitted. This option is used with the driver order bar below where you can define a set of initial driver command to be executed just after the portal has emited the train.

At the left bottom, you will find four icons. The arrow up is to bring the current entry one step up when the rule has several entries. The arrow down is the same to bring the current entry one step below. This is only for presentation order, as the rule will loop on all enabled entries.
The x icon is for entry deletion. If you want to suppress the curent entry, just click on the x icon.
The I icon is for inserting a new entry. When you click on it, it will insert a new empty entry just after the current entry.

Just below an example of setup with a fullfilled entry :



5. How the rule works in driver mode

In fact the rule works in the following manner.

- first, it starts a new clock thread, with a 15 seconds period.
- Then, on each 15 second cycle, it checks if one of the time in timetables is beetween the previous cycle time and current time. If so, the rule will retrieve all the train consist definition, driver name, driver orders and will call the internal portal interface to create and dispatch the train. The duration for portal train creation is beetween 45 seconds and 1 minute, so the emited train should appear about 1 minute after the scheduled time.

Have a nice usage of this rule.
Pierre GUY.