

1. In contrast to most systems of groups 1 and 2, these systems can be designed fail safe, so malfunction of the equipment leads to a more restrictive indication in the cab.
2. The train continuously receives the newest information in each position of the way. This prevents the driver from forgetting signal aspects and enables an immediate reaction of the system if signal aspects change.

However, an important safety-reducing disadvantage is that, unless the length of the track circuits is standardised or additional transmitters for length information are provided, calculation of an adjusted braking curve is not possible. To improve this, some systems with continuous transmission by coded track circuits are used together with intermittent transmission systems (e.g. System SAUT, chapter 8.3.5.3).

8.3.4.1 ALSN of Former Soviet Union

ALSN is used on almost 100 thousand kilometres in the countries of former Soviet Union or more than 10 percent of world railways. This system is installed on main lines but applied basically as additional equipment which supplements, and not replaces trackside signals in most cases. If there is a disagreement between trackside and cab signals, the driver has to obey the trackside signal.

The system was developed in the 1930s in the Soviet Union with use of experience of the first coded track circuits in the USA. In 1937 this system had received a medal at the International exhibition in Paris, but its introduction has been interrupted by war and has proceeded only after 1949 (Vlasenko 2006).

There are three codes displayed in the cab signal corresponding with the aspect of the trackside signal ahead. In case of three-aspect-signalling (chapter 7.3.3.2), these codes are (figure 8.25):

- red signal ahead (results in cab signal red-yellow)
- yellow signal ahead (results in cab signal yellow)
- green signal ahead (results in cab signal green)

The section beyond a signal at Stop is not coded, therefore the train will be emergency stopped (cab signal red). This is in accordance with the fail-safe-principle. Passage of a

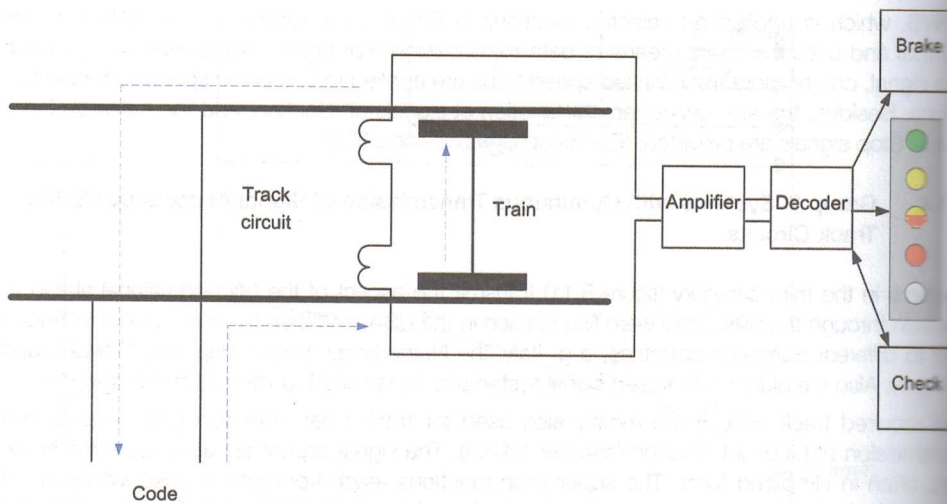


Figure 8.25: Code transmission from track circuits to the locomotive equipment

Stop signal can be authorised (figure 8.26).

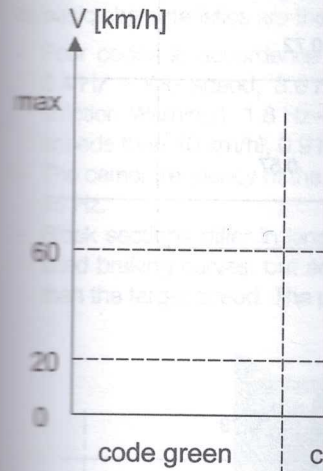


Figure 8.26: Braking supervision

As the number of signal aspects is limited, a simple rule. If the train approaches a signal for which can be between two signal aspects (chapter 6.1.2.3) or if the track ahead is clear, the speed restriction after the signal has to be selected. If the following signal is red or auxiliary, the driver has to select the proper speed restriction.

To distinguish the passage of a signal (e.g. secondary tracks in station) the system uses a different code. No code after the signal at Stop (the emergency brake command) and ALSN is switched off) and requires a manual check.

The period of the code transmission is fixed. The assignment of the two periods is fixed. The carrier frequency depends on the distance to the signal with low frequency often used for long distances. This means that the new cab signal is received after a certain reaction time also applies if a train is already in the system.

System ALSN itself (without the additional transmission of information about distance to the signal) is limited to 2500 meters depending on the signal aspect. ALSN (without any additional transmission) is limited to 60 km/h. The speed is limited to 60 km/h. The speed is limited to 60 km/h. The speed is limited to 60 km/h.

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