

DATAPOINT OPERATIONS USER GUIDE

Describes how to use DataPoint Operations September, 2021

Version 7.4.11/2021

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About this Document - Data Point Operations User Guide

This document explains how to use the Avail web-based application called DataPoint. It discusses the purpose of DataPoint, how it functions, initial setup, features and functionality, and how to use DataPoint to update information stored in the property's database.

DataPoint is an application geared toward administrators of information about the property (e.g. route information, service level definitions) as well as those who need to access reports based on recorded data.

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Revision History

REVISION NUMBER	DATE	COMMENT			
1.0	February 24, 2017	Initial Release			
1.1	Aug 7, 2018	Minor update			
1.2	September 17, 2018	Major changes for release 6.5			
1.3	January, 2019	Reviewed for myAvail 6.5.1			
1.4	April, 2019	Reviewed for myAvail 7.0 (No Changes Needed)			
1.5	October, 2020	Updated Trip Sample Review. Minor tweaks elsewhere.			
1.6	June, 2021	Updated 1.2. Accessing DataPoint.			
1.7	September, 2021	Updated images in 3.1 and 3.2. Vehicle Information is in ETMS now.			



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DATAPOINT OVERVIEW

1.1. WHAT IS DATAPOINT?

DataPoint is a real-time On-Line Analytical Processing (OLAP) software package that puts your existing farebox data and Avail Technologies APC data to work for you. This product is a complete fare collection and ridership reporting and analysis tool. It saves time and effort by eliminating the need to shuffle through stacks of paper reports or cumbersome software, a process that could take hours, days, or even weeks.

DataPoint provides a simple step-by-step interface that allows you to gather data quickly. For example, you can use DataPoint to configure your system, enter and adjust your schedule data, make adjustments for NTD Reporting, and import farebox data.

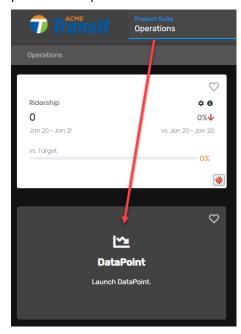
DataPoint produces easy-to-understand, graphical analysis reports. A powerful drill-down mechanism allows you to go deeper into the data to find the specific information you require. You can view data in a variety of ways and identify trends to answer questions about revenue and ridership. The graphical reports allow you to harness the power of your data to streamline and adjust your service and, ultimately, reduce operational costs.



NOTE: In addition to our standard DataPoint feature, Avail Technologies also offers optional new features of a data warehouse capability that you access using the Business Intelligence tool. If you want to know more about these features, please contact your account representative or Avail Support.

1.2. ACCESSING DATAPOINT

Users of myAvail v. 7.4.5 and higher can access DataPoint through the ETMS platform/Operations/DataPoint card:



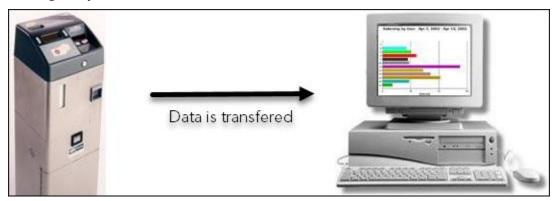


1.3. DATAPOINT DAILY USAGE

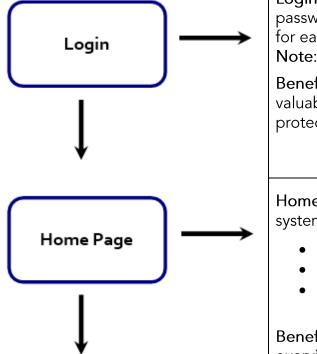
DataPoint and myAvail are integral parts of the daily data collection process.

- Throughout the day, all vehicles collect farebox data.
- At the end of the line, all fare data are downloaded to the central farebox server.
- DataPoint imports the data from the farebox server into its database.
- myAvail performs exception testing to identify conflicting data.
- After the exceptions testing, the data are included in the analysis and summary reports.

Exception testing in myAvail compares imported data to DataPoint's setup information. This testing highlights all conflicting information. A trained user should perform exception testing daily.



1.4. DATAPOINT ROADMAP



Login: Each user logs in using a unique password. Different levels of access can be set for each user based on their job requirements. Note: User access is set up in myAvail.

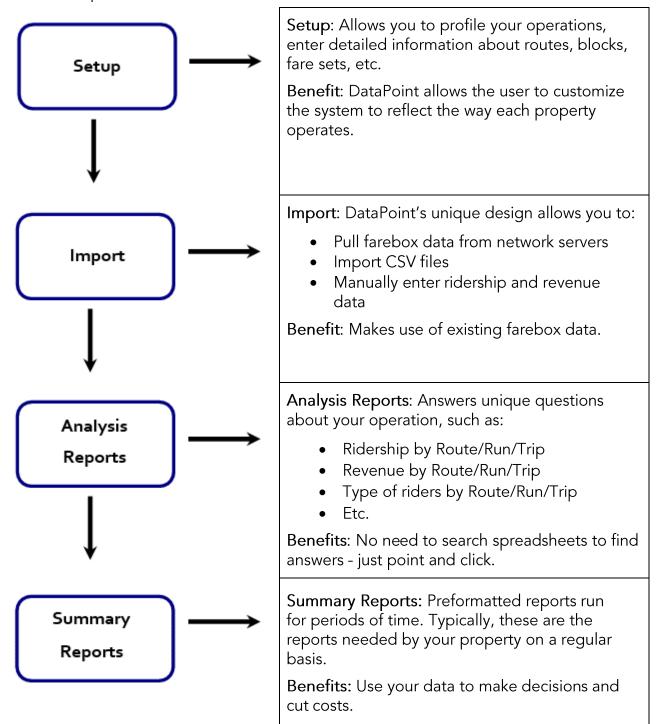
Benefit: DataPoint provides greater security of valuable information by using password protection.

Home Page: Allows users to easily view the system's status. It displays the following:

- Number of users logged in
- Earliest and latest dates in the holding tank
- Earliest and latest dates available for reporting

Benefit: Provides administrators a system overview at a glance.

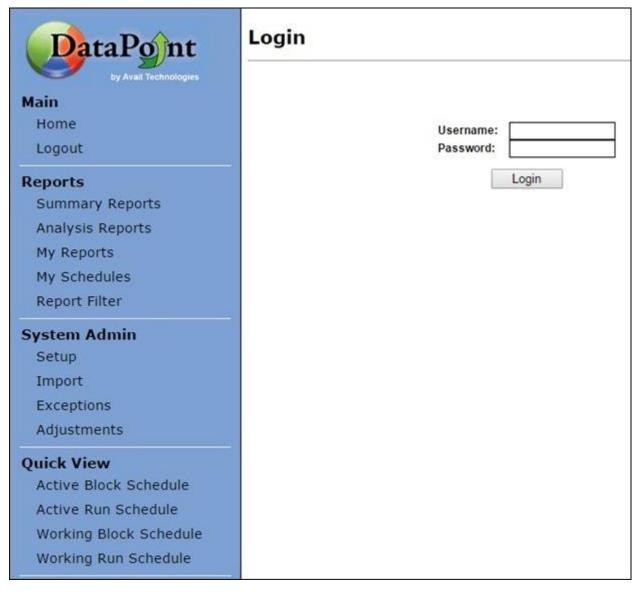






2. GETTING STARTED

2.1. LOGGING ON

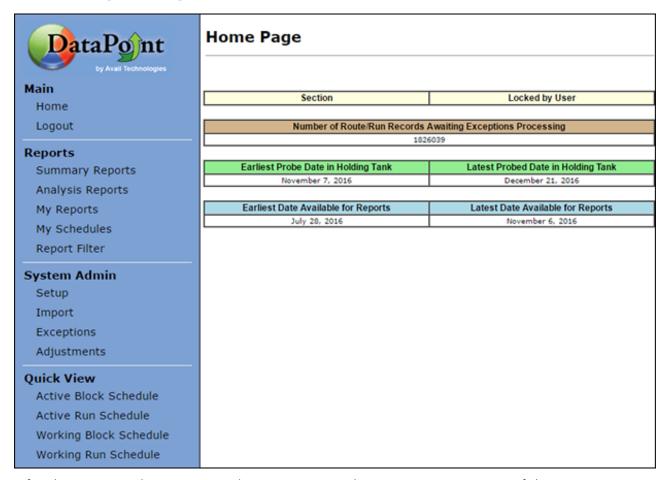


DataPoint users first encounter the login screen. Each user requires a username and password, which are the same as those used in myAvail. The myAvail roles assigned to the user either enable or disable access to the options in the left navigation menu that is shown above.

Access control helps ensure minimal data errors because only specified users can make changes to your valuable data.



2.2. HOME PAGE

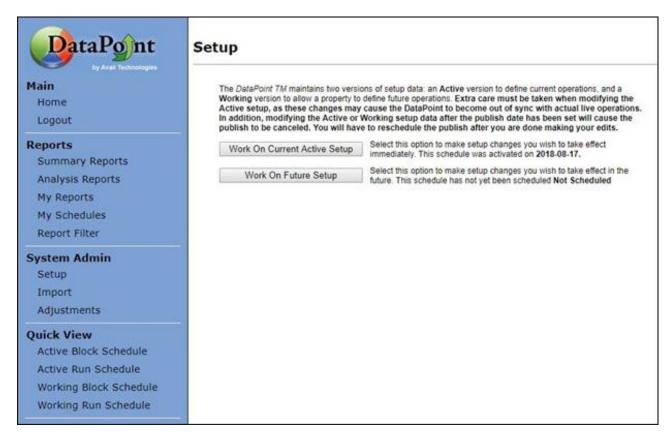


After logging in, the user sees the Home Page that gives an overview of the system's status. Here, users can learn a variety of things, such as which areas are currently in use, earliest to latest probe date in the holding tank, and earliest and latest dates that are available for reporting. This information allows administrators to track which task has been completed. Keeping track of dates that are available for reporting becomes important when reviewing reports.



3. SETUP

The various setup sections are used to configure the myAvail system. Most options are configured during the initial training and installation of myAvail. This guide describes how to run through setup, so you can adjust the configuration. DataPoint Setup provides access to view schedule data, such as blocks, runs, trips, patterns and routes. However, edits to schedule data must be done through your scheduling package.



In setup, you must choose between working on the current setup and working on a future setup. The screen describes this choice.



3.1. SETUP - ACTIVE SETUP AND SCHEDULE DATA



Main

Home

Logout

Reports

Summary Reports

Analysis Reports

My Reports

My Schedules

Report Filter

System Admin

Setup

Import

Adjustments

Quick View

Active Block Schedule

Active Run Schedule

Working Block Schedule

Working Run Schedule

Setup - Active Setup and Schedule Data

Data Import Options		<u>update</u>
Company Information		<u>update</u>
Garage Information	<u>options</u>	
Vehicle Information		Use ETMS
Fare Information		<u>update</u>
Fareset Information		<u>update</u>
Service Level Information	<u>options</u>	<u>update</u>
Service Level Definitions		<u>update</u>
Stop Information	<u>options</u>	<u>view</u>
Run Information		<u>view</u>
Block Information		<u>view</u>
Route Information	<u>options</u>	<u>view</u>
Trip Information	<u>options</u>	<u>view</u>
Transfer Points		<u>update</u>
Block Scheduling		<u>view</u>



3.2. SETUP - WORKING SETUP AND SCHEDULE DATA



Main

Home

Logout

Reports

Summary Reports

Analysis Reports

My Reports

My Schedules

Report Filter

System Admin

Setup

Import

Adjustments

Quick View

Active Block Schedule

Active Run Schedule

Working Block Schedule

Working Run Schedule

Setup - Working Setup and Schedule Data

Data Import Options		<u>update</u>
Company Information		<u>update</u>
Garage Information	<u>options</u>	
Vehicle Information		Use ETMS
Fare Information		<u>update</u>
Fareset Information		<u>update</u>
Service Level Information	<u>options</u>	<u>update</u>
Service Level Definitions		<u>update</u>
Stop Information	<u>options</u>	<u>view</u>
Run Information		<u>view</u>
Block Information		<u>view</u>
Route Information	<u>options</u>	<u>view</u>
Trip Information	<u>options</u>	<u>view</u>
Transfer Points		<u>update</u>
Block Scheduling		<u>view</u>

After selecting Work On Current Active Setup or Work On Future Setup, you'll see one of the two preceding screens. These are the screens where you can find links to all of the other setup tools. If you want to change between the current setup and the future setup, click Setup in the navigation menu on the left.



NOTE: There are four sections, where changes made to the data take effect immediately even if the changes are entered under the Future Setup screen. These sections include Data Import Options, Company Information, Garage Information and Vehicle Information.



3.3. SETUP: DATA IMPORT OPTIONS



Use the Farebox Options screen to specify the fare collection system that your property uses. Currently, DataPoint supports Avail APC, Avail Farebox, GFI DOS v4.03, GFI System 7, Avail APC, and Manual entry. As the need arises, we will add additional fare collection systems.

To specify the fare collection system, do the following:

- 1. Click **Setup** in the left navigation menu and click either **Current Setup** or **Future Setup**.
- 2. In the Setup table, locate Data Import Options and click Update in the right-hand column.
- 3. In the Farebox Options screen, select the correct options in the drop-downs and click Next.



3.4. SETUP: COMPANY INFORMATION



Use the Company Information screen to enter information about your property and how it operates. To add company information, do the following:

- 1. Click **Setup** in the left navigation menu and click either **Current Setup** or **Future Setup**.
- 2. In the Setup table, locate Company Information and click Update in the right-hand
- 3. Red asterisks indicate required fields. The other fields are optional. However, the more information you enter, the better DataPoint understands how your property operates on a daily basis.
- 4. Click **Update** to save your changes. Click **Reset** to set each field's value back to the original values that were displayed before any changes were made. Click **Done** to proceed. Click **Back** to return to the previous page without saving any changes.



3.5. SETUP: GARAGE INFORMATION

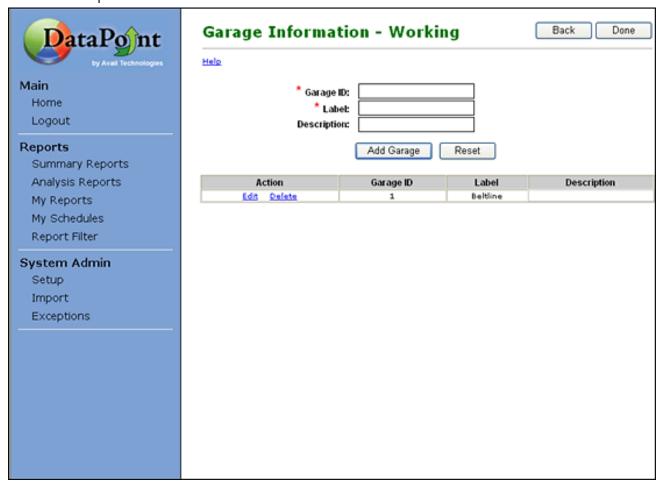


Use the Garage Information screen if your property operates out of more than one garage and you want to be able to report based on garage. To access this screen, you must first indicate that you want to analyze and report ridership data by garage.

To enable reporting by garage, do the following:

- 1. Click **Setup** in the left navigation menu and click either **Current Setup** or **Future Setup**.
- 2. In the Setup table, locate Garage Information and click Options in the center column.
- 3. In Do you wish to analyze and report on ridership data by Garage? choose Yes and click Next.





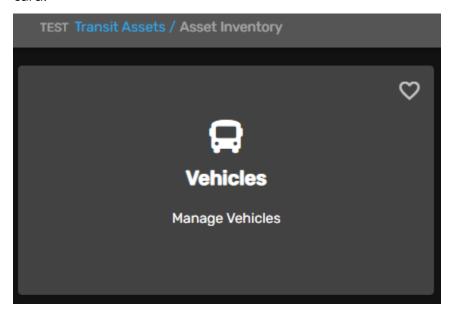
To add a new garage, do the following:

- 1. You must enter a **Garage ID**, which must match the Garage ID entered into the farebox.
- 2. You must enter a Label (reports display this name).
- 3. Optionally, enter a description of the garage.
- 4. After you have entered all the information, click **Add Garage** and the garage is added to the table. Add all the required garages and click **Done**. Click **Back** to return to the previous page without saving any changes.



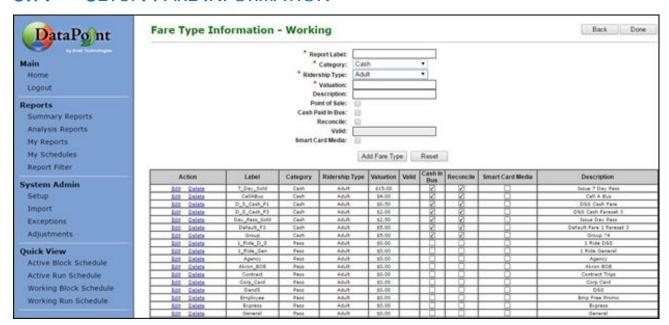
3.6. SETUP: VEHICLE INFORMATION

Vehicle Information is now accessible from the ETMS/Transit Assets/Asset Inventory/Vehicles card.



Please see more information in the myAvail User Guide.

3.7. SETUP: FARE INFORMATION



Use the Fare Type Information screen to create the types of fares and define their values. To create a new fare, do the following:

- 1. Click **Setup** in the left navigation menu and click either **Current Setup** or **Future Setup**.
- 2. In the Setup table, locate Fare Information and click Update in the right-hand



DataPoint Operations User Guide column.

- 3. Enter the information about the new type of fare. Red asterisks indicate required fields. The other fields are optional.
- 4. Click **Add Fare Type** and the new fare type is added to the table. Add all new fare types and click **Done**.

Most properties have Ridership Types like Senior Citizens, Monthly Passes, and Transfers that they want to record. However, if you want to record a count of items that are transported on the vehicle, use the *Non-Ridership* option under Category. For example, a property can enter *Bikes* in Report Label and set Category to *Non-Ridership*. Please contact Avail Support if help is needed to add Ridership Types and/or Fare Categories.

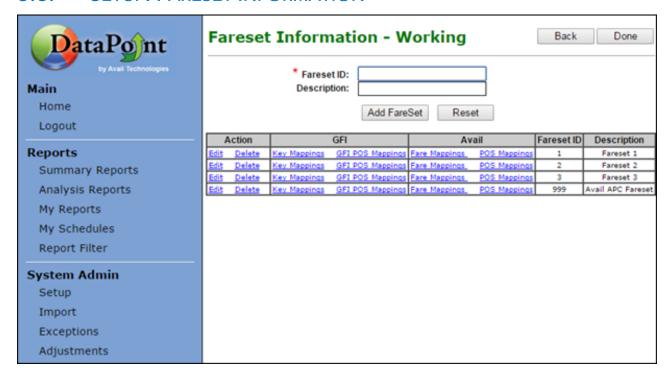
To record fares that are sold on the vehicle at the transit center, or elsewhere, check the box for Point of Sale. For example, a 3-Day pass can be sold on the vehicle to generate revenue. To do this, enter 3-Day pass in Record Label, specify Pass in Category, and check the box for Point of Sale.

Below is an example table of fares. Green denotes a 'Non-Ridership' fare. Blue denotes a 'Point of sale' fare. A fare with no color (white background) is a regular Ridership fare.





3.8. SETUP: FARESET INFORMATION



Use the Fareset Information screen to create new fare sets. A Fare set is a set of fare types (e.g., student, senior citizen, etc.) that have been assigned to keys on the farebox and to a monetary value. Many properties have more than one fare set in order to have enough keys for all of their different fare types or because one fare type can represent different values on different routes.

To create a new fare set, do the following:

- 1. Click Setup in the left navigation menu and click either Current Setup or Future Setup.
- 2. In the Setup table, locate Fareset Information and click Update in the right-hand column.
- 3. Enter the information about the fare set. Fareset ID is required while Description is optional. The description field is often used to better characterize the fare set than Fareset ID alone.
- 4. Click Add FareSet and the new fare set is added to the table. Add all new fare sets.
- 5. After you add a new fare set, you must click **Key Mappings** in the **GFI column** for that fare set to map fare types to farebox keys. The guide covers the Key Mapping Information screen in the next section.



NOTE: When adding a fare set IDs, you can use only the numbers 1 through 7. Numbers over 7 show up as headway.



3.9. Setup: Fareset Information Continued - Key Mapping



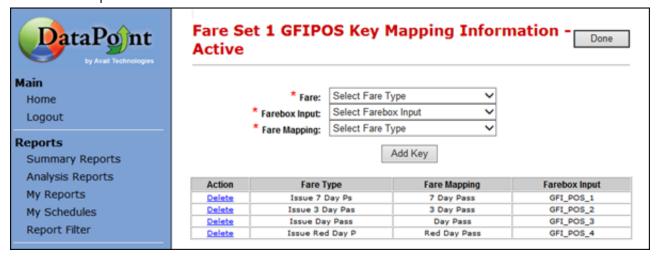
To map non-point of sales fare types to farebox keys, do the following:

- 1. In Fare, choose the type of fare you want to map. This drop-down displays all of the non-point of sale fare types that you created earlier.
- 2. In Farebox Input, choose the keys that you want to assign to the fare. This drop-down displays all of the keys on your GFI farebox that the operator can press.
- 3. Click **Add Key** and the new key mapping is added to the table. Add all the new key mappings that are required for the fare set and click **Done**.

If you don't want operators to press a key for a regular rider who pays the full fare, use *auto_fare*. In Fare, choose the fare type that corresponds to a regular fare. Under Farebox Input, select *auto_fare*, and click Add Key. After the money enters the farebox, it is automatically counted as a regular rider and full fare within the DataPoint database.

After you are done with the non-point-of-sale key mappings, you need to assign the point-of-sale key mappings. To do this, click **GFI POS mappings** in the Fareset Information screen.





Use the GFIPOS Key Mapping Information screen to map point-of-sale occurrences to ridership and non-ridership fares in order to maintain accurate valuation calculations.

To map-point of sales fare types to farebox keys, do the following:

- 1. In Fare, choose the point-of-sale fare you want to map. This drop-down displays all of the point-of-sale fare types that you created earlier.
- 2. In Farebox Input, choose the keys that you want to assign to the fare. If you choose a GFI farebox input, the input represents a fare that can be sold on a vehicle. However, if you choose a 'GFI_POS' farebox_input, the input represents a fare that is sold in places other than a vehicle (e.g. transit center, library, etc.).
- 3. In Fare Mapping, choose a valid ridership fare to map to (e.g. fare 'Issue Day Pass' maps to the ridership fare 'Day Pass').
- 4. Click **Add Key** and the new key mapping is added to the table. Add all of the new point-of-sale key mappings that are required for the fare set and click **Done**.

3.10. SETUP: SERVICE LEVEL INFORMATION



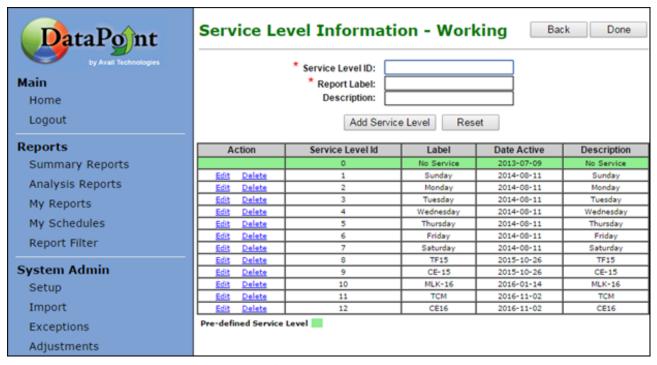
Use the Service Level Information screen if your property has more than one service level and you want to be able to report based on service level. Service levels are runs that occur



at a particular time of the week or year. For example, a run can fall under either the weekday or weekend service levels, which are shown below.

To access this screen, you must first indicate that you want to analyze and report ridership data by service level. To enable reporting by service, do the following:

- 1. Click **Setup** in the left navigation menu and click either **Current Setup** or **Future Setup**.
- 2. In the Setup table, locate Service Level Information and click Options in the center column. If the report on ridership data by Service Level question has already been answered, click Update and proceed to step 4.
- 3. In Do you wish to analyze and report on ridership data by Service Level? choose Yes and click Next.



To create a new service level, do the following:

- 1. You must enter a **Service Level** and a **Report Label** (reports display this name). Optionally, enter a description of the service level.
- 2. After you have entered all the information, click **Add Service Level** and it is added to the table. Add all of the required service levels and click **Done**. Section 2.14 of the guide describes how to define the service levels after you create them.

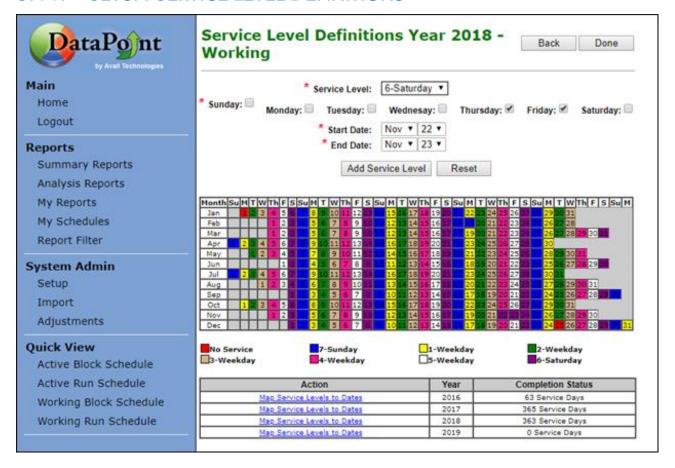


NOTE: Rather than make new service levels for small changes in the schedule, such as a local community event, consult with Avail on the proper way of getting report data for small, infrequent services.

DataPoint automatically creates a "no service" level for your property, which is useful for



3.11. SETUP: SERVICE LEVEL DEFINITIONS



Use the Service Level Definitions screen to define service levels after you create them. The color coding helps ensure that your property assigns each day of the year to a service level. In the example above, each weekday operates a different service with no service on New Year's Day and Christmas.



HINT: As you hover the pointer over the date squares for service levels, the legend highlights the corresponding service level. Conversely, if you hover the pointer over the legend, the date squares highlight for the corresponding service level.

Service levels are completed yearly, but DataPoint allows you to define service levels for future years. The table below the service level mapping calendar displays each year's completion status.

To define a service level, do the following:

- 1. Click **Setup** in the left navigation menu and click either **Current Setup** or **Future Setup**.
- 2. In the Setup table, locate Service Level Definitions and click Update in the right-



hand column.

- 3. In Service Level, choose the service level that you want to define.
- 4. In the checkboxes, check each day of the week that the service level operates. If you want to select more than one day, hold down the Control (Ctrl) key while selecting.
- 5. In Start Date and End Date, choose the appropriate dates.
- 6. Click **Add Service Level** and the new service level definition is added to the color-coded table. Check the table to determine whether definitions are assigned to all days of the year. Add all the required service level definitions and click **Done**.

3.12. SETUP: STOP INFORMATION

WHAT IS A STOP?

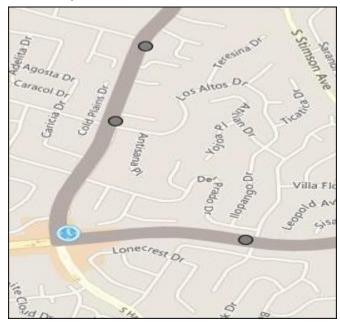
A stop is any point that a property schedules along a route where an operator stops to pick up or drop off riders. In addition to regular stops, DataPoint supports two special types of stops: time point stops and non-public stops.

Use time point stops to collect schedule adherence data at stops where passengers board and alight.

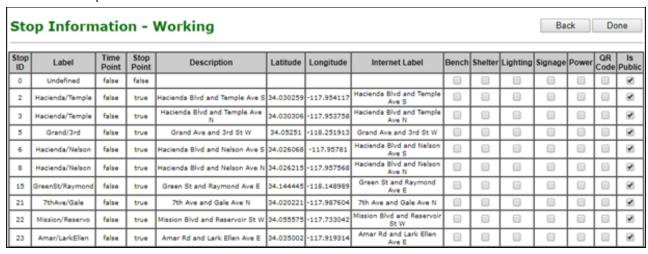
Non-public stops are a specialized type of time point stops where operators neither pick up nor drop off riders. Unsurprisingly, the system does not display non-public stops to the public. The purpose of these stops is to collect schedule adherence data when there are large distances between public stops. Set up non-public stops by deselecting the 'Is Public' attribute, as shown on the next page.

The map below displays a route with both stops and time point stops . DataPoint can display stops, time point stops, and non-public stops.

Stops are an important part of DataPoint because they help build patterns, which this guide explains later.







DataPoint provides a view of the stop information that your property imports from a scheduling package. DataPoint displays the following columns:

- Stop ID: The stop's unique identifier.
- Label: A short identifier used where screen space is at a premium.
- Time Point: Indicates this stop is used for schedule adherence calculations.
- Stop Point: Indicates this is a location where the public can board or alight the vehicle. These are also used in calculating estimated departure times for the public.
- Description: The full stop name used internally where space allows.
- Latitude/Longitude: Pin points the location of the stop, which is used in system calculations and all map displays. Accuracy is important.
- Internet label: The stop name displayed to the public on the Passenger Information website, signage and smart phone applications.
- Stop amenities flags: These flags indicate if the stop has a bench, shelter, lighting, signage, power, or a QR code. A QR code is a smart phone readable tag to directly access information that relates to the stop.
- 'Is Public' attribute: This flag controls whether a stop is displayed and included as part of the public-facing feeds and screens such as: Google Transit Feed, Passenger Information website, IVR, etc. Non-public stops are used to improve departure estimation.



NOTE: A stop has one physical location and should be entered only once for that location. For example, stops on the opposite side of a street are considered two different stops.

3.13. SETUP: BLOCK - RUN INFORMATION

By default, the system displays information using blocks. However, the system can be configured to display information using either runs or blocks.

HOW TO VIEW BLOCK INFORMATION?

A block contains the trips and routes that an administrator assigns to a vehicle for a given <u>service level</u>, including deadhead trips. You can access the schedule by selecting Setup, then selecting to Work On Current Setup or Future, then selecting Block Scheduling view link, then Show Active Block Summary.

etailed Summary: Active Block Schedule								
ervice I	Level: 7	'-Sund	day		Blo	ock: 10	80	
Route	Trip	Start	End	Block Id	Route Id	Trip Id	Di	
Deadhead	0540-D	05:40	06:00	10801	999	540	D	
178	0600-E	06:00	07:19	10801	178	600	E	
Deadhead	0719-D	07:19	07:25	10801	999	719	D	
Deadhead	0739-D	07:39	07:40	10801	999	739	D	
178	0740-W	07:40	09:10	10801	178	740	W	
178	1005-E	10:05	11:37	10801	178	1005	E	
Deadhead	1137-D	11:37	11:43	10801	999	1137	D	
Deadhead	1224-D	12:24	12:25	10801	999	1224	D	
185	1225-N	12:25	13:29	10801	185	1225	N	
185	1355-S	13:55	14:59	10801	185	1355	S	
Deadhead	1459-D	14:59	15:05	10801	999	1459	D	
Deadhead	1519-D	15:19	15:20	10801	999	1519	D	
178	1520-W	15:20	16:51	10801	178	1520	W	
	1651-D	16:51	17:11	10801	999	1651	Ь	

HOW TO VIEW RUN INFORMATION?

A run contains the trips and routes that an administrator assigns to an operator for a workday, including deadhead trips and layovers. This can be accessed by selecting Setup, then selecting to Work On Current Setup or Future, then selecting Block Scheduling view link, then Show Active Run Summary.



etailed Summary: Active Run Schedule								
ervice Level: 7-Sunday Run: 12801								
Route	Trip	Start	End	Run Id	Route Id	Trip Id	Dir	
Deadhead	0534-D	05:34	05:39	12801	999	534	D	
188	0539-W	05:39	06:31	12801	188	539	W	
188	0637-E	06:37	07:35	12801	188	637	E	
188	0804-W	08:04	09:01	12801	188	804	W	
	0907-E	09:07	10:06	12801	188	907	E	
188			10.00	12001	200	20,		
	1006-D	10:06	10:11	12801	999	1006	D	
188							D	
188 Deadhead	1006-D	10:06	10:11	12801	999	1006	-	

This block information is also available through the myAvail Operations top-level tab in the Block Info sub-tab, which is shown below. myAvail gives dispatchers immediate access to this information so they can determine when a vehicle will be available and determine a vehicle's scheduled location when communications are lost.



3.14. SETUP: ROUTE INFORMATION

In myAvail, a route is a collection of many components that correspond to a specific route label. A set of stops corresponds to a route. The start times and running times between stops associated with a route determine one trip (an instance of the route). A unique order of stops is a pattern. Each trip is assigned a pattern. Therefore, there is no simple answer to the question "What is a Route?" For the purposes of this section, a Route is limited to a collection of attributes that defines the route to the public. (Stops are defined in Setup: Trip Information. The pattern is defined in Setup: Pattern Information.)



DataPoint displays routes as a trace on a map with dots for stop indicators and the clock symbol for time points. When a rider says, "I get on the northbound Route M at 3rd and Main St. at 1:00 PM." The name Route M is a route attribute, 3rd and Main St. is a stop attribute, northbound at 1:00 PM defines a trip, and each trip is assigned a pattern.

The screen image below shows all the attributes that can be assigned to a route.





To view a route's attributes, do the following:

- 1. Click Setup in the left navigation menu and click either Current Setup or Future Setup.
- 2. In the Setup table, locate Route Information, and click View in the right-hand column.

DataPoint displays the following columns:

- Actions: These are links to view associated information
 - o Trip
 - o Stops
 - o Patterns
- ID: Unique identifier for the route.
- Label: The short identifier for the route.
- Fareset: The fares assigned to this route. Fareset is defined in <u>Setup: Fareset Information</u>.
- Ridership Source: Ridership for the route can be reported by fares collected or Automatic Passenger Counters (APC) data. This flag determines the default method.



- Start Time: The time the first trip of the day begins, including deadheads to the first revenue trip.
- End Time: The time the last trip of the day completes, including deadheads to return to the vehicle yard.
- Revenue Miles: This is an estimated average value. The revenue miles driven on a route is variable because individual route patterns can vary in length and the trips that are run can change based on the day of the week.
- Revenue Minutes: This is an estimated average value. The revenue minutes driven on a route is variable because individual route patterns can vary in length and the trips that are run can change based on the day of the week.
- Internet Name: The route name that is displayed for the public on internet applications.
- IVR Description: This is the route name that the IVR (Interactive Voice Response) system uses. This name is intended to be compatible with text to speech software.
- Disp. On Dispatch: Display on dispatch indicates whether this route is shown on internal displays. Use this feature for deadhead routes and the rare cases where dispatchers are not managing a route.
- Perf. Off Route: Perform Off Route indicates whether the off-route calculations are performed for this route. This setting is turned off for deadhead routes.
- Map Layer Name: The route name that is shown on a map display.
- Off Route Dist.: The Off Route Distance is the number of feet that a vehicle must be off the route trace to be reported as being off route.
- Route Color Info: This field displays the colors that DataPoint uses for a route trace and the text.
- Google Desc.: Google Description is the route name that General Transit Feed Specification (GTFS) uses.
- Inc. In Google: Include In Google indicates whether the system includes the route in the GTFS data.

3.15. SETUP: TRIP INFORMATION

HOW TO VIEW A TRIP?

A trip is a specific instance of a route. Administrators assign a pattern to a trip, which defines the order of the stops. The trip defines the start time and running time between each stop.



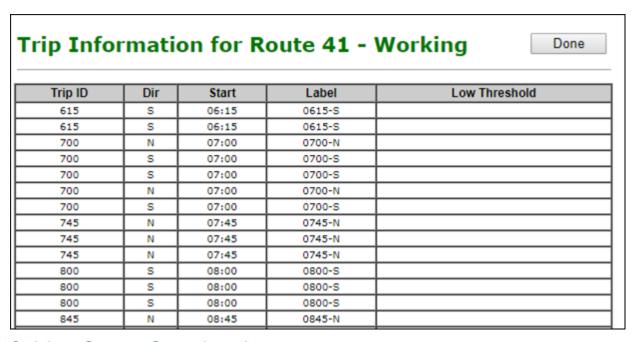
NOTE: The 6:00 AM trip runs the same pattern as the 8:00 AM trip, but it requires less time due to the lack of traffic and fewer riders. The time adjustments are made in the trip.

To view a trip, do the following:

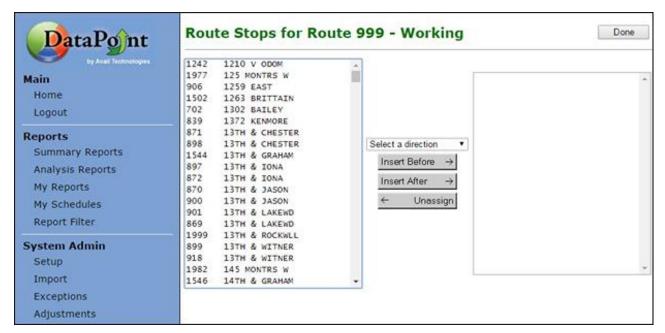
1. Click **Setup** in the left navigation menu, and then click either **Current Setup** or **Future Setup**.



- 2. In the Setup table, locate Route Information, and then click View in the right-hand column.
- 3. In the Route Information table, locate the route of interest, and then click Trips in the left-hand column.



3.16. SETUP: STOP LIST INFORMATION



Use the Route Stops screen to create an ordered stop list. Stop lists allow you to build patterns later in the Setup process.

To create a stop list, do the following:

1. Click Setup in the left navigation menu and click either Current Setup or Future



Setup.

- 2. In the **Setup** table, locate **Route Information** and click **Update** in the right-hand column.
- 3. In the Route Information table, locate the route of interest and click Stops in the left-hand column.
- 4. Select the direction to which you want to add stops. Then, highlight each stop from the left-hand list and click **Insert Before** or **Insert After** to add it to the right-hand list. The list that you create will be used to produce the patterns in the next step. To remove a stop from the right-hand list, select the stop and click **Unassign**.
- 5. When you have completed your list, click **Done**.

3.17. SETUP: PATTERN INFORMATION

A pattern is a stop list that has distance offsets for all stops. A distance offset is the amount of distance in feet between each stop and the next stop.



NOTE: DataPoint stores the stop-to-stop distances as the distance from the stop to the beginning of the pattern.

If all the trips on a route have the same stops, then only one pattern is required for each direction of the trip to provide the order of the stops.

In other cases, a route can have trips that do not stop at all the stops or have different distance offsets. Both conditions require an additional pattern for each variant.

To view a pattern, do the following in the Route Information screen (patterns only exist in relation to a specific route):

- 1. Click **Setup** in the left navigation menu, and then click either **Current Setup** or **Future Setup**.
- 2. In the Setup table, locate Route Information, and then click View in the right-hand column.
- 3. In the Route Information table, locate the route of interest, and then click Pattern in the left-hand column.

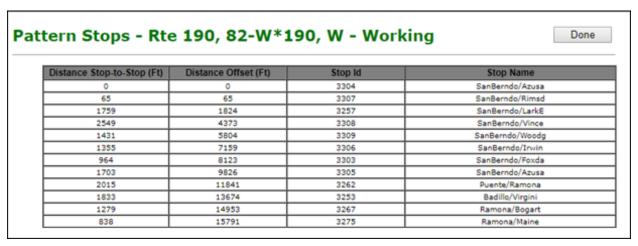
Pattern Information for Route 190 - Working								
Action	Pattern Name	Direction	Description	Total Distance	Headsign Id	External Announce Id	Google Shape Id	Headway
Stops	77-E*190	E	77-E*190	10.48 mi	220	0		
Stops	79-W*190	w	79-W*190	10.1 mi	221	0		
Stops	82-W*190	w	82-W*190	8.07 mi	221	0		
Stops	97-E*190	E	97-E*190	16.55 mi	219	0		
Stops	98-W*190	w	98-W*190	16.44 mi	221	0		

DataPoint displays the following columns:



- Actions: "Stops" is a link that displays the stops that comprise this pattern.
- Pattern Name: The pattern name is often rather cryptic and conveys information about the pattern.
- Direction: Every pattern has a direction, which varies depending on the type of route or property conventions. Examples are as follows:
 - o Inbound/Outbound: "Hub and spoke" patterns use these terms.
 - North/South or East/West: Properties use compass directions when there is no central transfer center.
 - o Loop, Clockwise, Counter Clockwise: When the route operates in only one, properties call it a "loop". When vehicles operate in both directions of a loop, properties use the terms Clockwise and Counter Clockwise.
 - o Properties can use any combination of these terms.
- Description: A longer descriptive pattern name.
- Total Distance: The sum of all stop-to-stop distances.
- Headsign ID: Identifies the headsign code that the system sends to "Destination A" for trips using this pattern.
- External Announcement ID: Identifies the announcement that plays on the external speakers when either door is opened while on a trip using this pattern.
- Google Shape ID: Pointer to the shapes record for this pattern as sent in the GTFS data.
- Headway: When checked, the system schedules all trips using this pattern as headway trips rather than a fixed stop time schedule.

To view the stops that comprise this pattern, on the pattern information page, click the "Stops" link in the action column of the desired pattern.

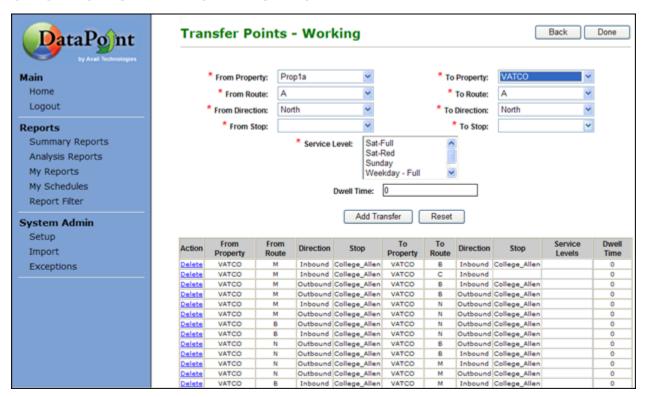


DataPoint displays the following columns:

- Distance Stop to Stop (Ft): This is the distance in feet from the previous stop.
- Distance Offset (Ft): This is the distance in feet from the first stop of the pattern.
- Stop ID: A unique identifier for the stop.
- Stop Name: The name assigned to the stop.



3.18. SETUP: TRANSFER POINTS

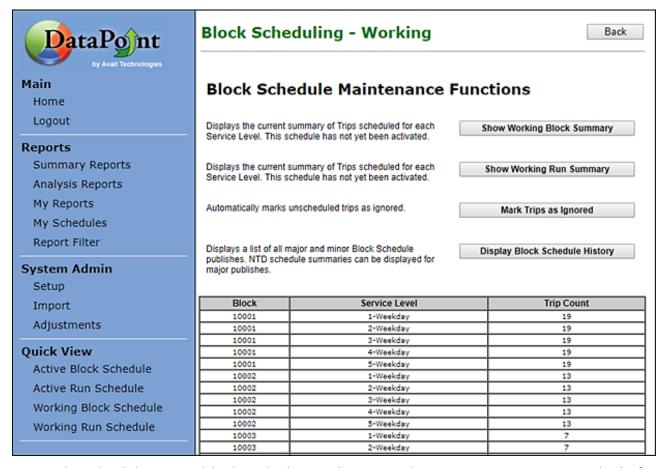


Use the transfer page to set up stops for transfer connection protection (TCP). TCP allows the system and operators to work together to ensure that passengers make their transfers to other routes. To create a transfer point, do the following:

- 1. Click Setup in the left navigation menu and click either Current Setup or Future Setup.
- In the Setup table, locate Transfer Points and click Update in the right-hand column.
- 3. Use the set of From drop-down lists in the left column to specify information about where the transfer originates.
- 4. Use the set of **To** drop-down lists in the right column to specify information about the transfer destination.
- 5. In Service Level, highlight all service levels that are applicable for this transfer.
- 6. If the stop specified in From Stop is not at the end of a trip, and if the requesting vehicle dwells at this stop, then enter the time in Dwell Time. Do not enter a dwell time if From Stop is at the end of the trip because the schedule data account for it.
- 7. Click Add Transfer.
- 8. Repeat these steps until you have entered transfers for all the required stops. When you have completed the transfers, click **Done**.



3.19. SETUP: BLOCK SCHEDULING



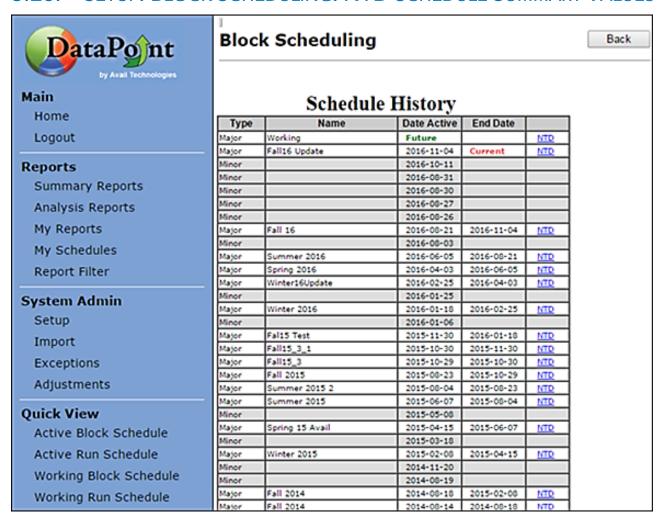
myAvail's scheduling uses blocks. Blocks are the trips administrators assign to a vehicle for the day. This section describes how to view the assigned trips to blocks and runs.

Above you can see the features that DataPoint provides for block scheduling in the working schedule workspace. The working schedule workspace allows you to view changes to your future block schedule that is stored without affecting the Current schedule. After you complete the working schedule in your scheduling package and choose to publish it, the schedule becomes the Current schedule and it uses it the incoming farebox information or AVL schedule.

To publish a working schedule, you must use the Build & Deploy tab in myAvail.



3.20. SETUP: BLOCK SCHEDULING: NTD SCHEDULE SUMMARY VALUES



DataPoint can create reports for the National Transit Database (NTD) based on the schedule data. To ensure that the number of miles and hours are correct for any major schedule, do the following:

- 1. Click Setup in the left navigation menu and click either Current Setup or Future Setup.
- 2. In the Setup table, locate Block Scheduling and click View in the right-hand column.
- 3. Click Display Block Schedule History button.
- 4. Click NTD for the schedule of interest and the NTD Schedule Summary screen appears.



DataPoint	NTD Schedule	e Summar	у					Back
by Avail Technologies Main	Service Levels	Working 2010-11-07 through Present						
Home	Weekday - Red	Deadhead	Miles	Hours	Trips	Miles	Hours	Trips
Logout	M-W Full	Deadhead	335.835	15.133	63		13.317	
Reports	R. Full	Route	Miles	Hours	Trips	Miles	Hours	Trips
				Calculated Values			Override Values	
Summary Reports	F Full	8	184.600	8.850	15		8.750	
Analysis Reports	M-W Ski	С	72.000	3.883	8		3.717	
	R. Ski	F	108.300	5.000	16		4.617	
My Reports		G	46.800	2.850	10		2.433	
My Schedules	F Ski	Special Service	0.000	0.000	0			
Report Filter	Sat Full	н	342.824	19.967	40		18.467	
report Filter	Sun Full	AP	54.400	4.200	9		3.017	
System Admin Setup		K	158.700	12.067	37		9,950	
	M-F Reduced	м	326.600	19.400	43		16.200	
	Sat Red	Maint. Test	80.500	22-167	46		3.833	
Import	Sun Red	N	517.000	42.300	110		36.667	
Exceptions		NV P	219.600	15.583	56		14 200	
Adjustments	Super Red	R	185.700 413.000	16-167 37-467	114		14.300 32.967	
Aujustinents	F-ball Sat	s	81.600	5.317	20		4.917	
		UT	80.000	10.633	60		6.667	
	Save Values	VE	166,600	14.500	54		12,333	
		VE	583.000	48.150	111		42.167	
		w	346.200	22-867	39		20.367	
	Copy Previous Schedule	×	340,456	15.367	31		14,150	
		RL.	605.308	45.850	133		40.800	
	Reset Override Values	GL	230.100	23-283	118		18.683	
		Blue Loop	61,600	57.267	14		5,600	
	Recalculate Values	2	135.958	5.767	16		5.600	
	710000000000000000000000000000000000000	White Loop	17.000	44.500	5		1.750	
		Football	0.000	0.000	0			
		A	55.000	4.100	10		3.600	
		Total	5,412,846	507.502	1,170	5,412,846	347,135	1,170

On the NTD Schedule Summary screen, values listed under Calculated Values are calculated directly from the schedule data. They are automatically recalculated when a schedule is published. These values are used in multiple reports, including the NTD and the revenue per mile/hour reports. The calculated values for miles, hours, and number of trips should be verified for accuracy.

Occasionally, the calculated values are incorrect. For example, trips with a mid-trip relief are scheduled twice, once on the run that starts the trip and once on the run that finishes the trip. In these cases, it is necessary to enter override values that reflect the true values for the schedule.

You can edit the cells in the three Override Values columns of the table. Simply enter the necessary override values directly in the appropriate cells in the table. If you specify override values, they are used for reporting instead of the calculated values.

You can also use the following buttons to edit override values:

- Service Level: This list contains all the service levels for the selected schedule. You should select and verify all service levels.
- Save Values: This button saves the values that you entered in the override cells.
- Copy Previous Schedule: This button copies all the override values from the



previous schedule for the selected service level. This function is useful if you want to make the same correction for each schedule cut.

- Reset Override Values: This button erases all the override values for the selected service level.
- Recalculate Values: This button recalculates the values for the selected schedule. This capability is only available for schedules where the data are still available. Data are available for the future, current, and one previous schedule.

TIP: This button is most useful when you make changes to the future schedule. Recalculate the values to determine the effect of the changes.



NOTE: Recalculate Values applies to all service levels of the selected schedule.

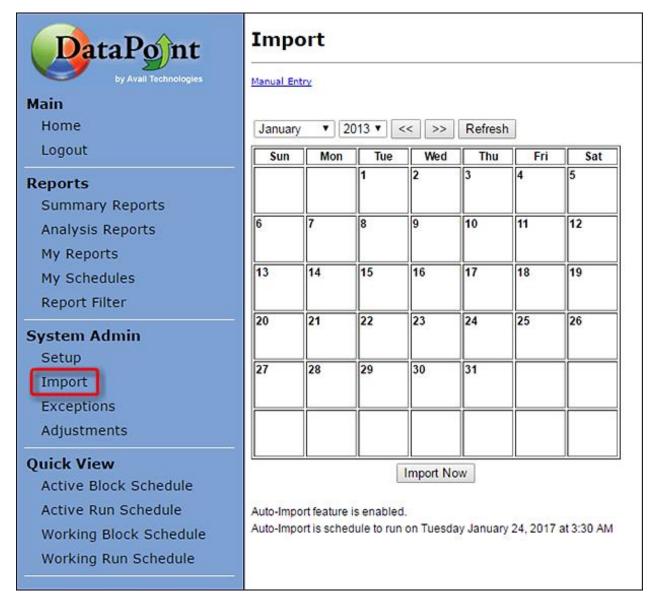


NOTE: Due to migration of DataPoint reports, NTD Trip Samples Report and NTD Summary Report are now also located in our ETMS system under Compliance suite/NTD Reporting card. For names and location of all the DataPoint reports, see our *DataPoint and BI Report Mapping* pdf document.



4. DAILY USAGE

4.1. IMPORT FAREBOX DATA FROM - GFI SYSTEM 7



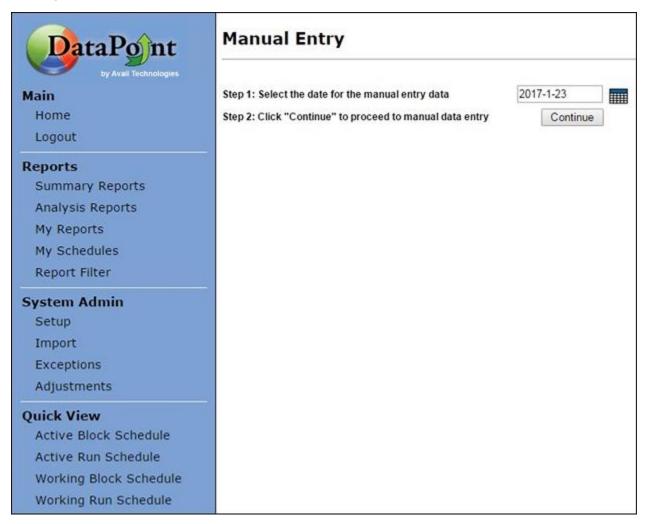
Use the Import screen to transfer data into the DataPoint database. Data must be imported before reporting can be performed on a day's data.

To import data for a specific date, click that date on the calendar and click **Import Now**. On the calendar, white indicates that the data have not been imported while yellow indicates that the data have been imported already.

If your property does not have fareboxes or Avail APCs, use Manual Entry to enter your ridership information. If your property has fareboxes or Avail APCs, then skip ahead to section to learn about exception testing.



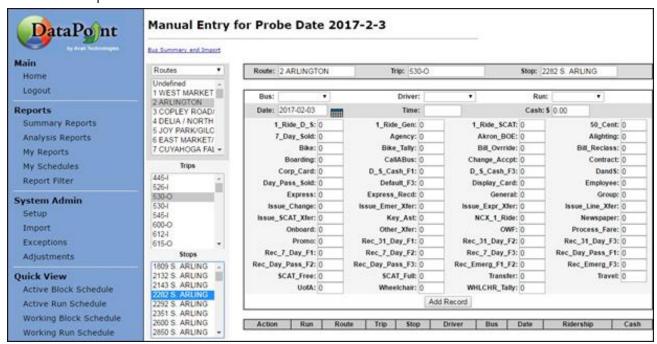
MANUAL ENTRY



Use Manual Entry if your property does not have fareboxes or Avail APCs in all the vehicles and the operators record ridership information. Additionally, use Manual Entry to enter a Special Event service that qualifies for NTD reporting. Manual Entry allows a user to choose each day of the month and enter all ridership information for each route down to each stop.

- 1. Click **Import** in the left navigation menu.
- 2. Click **Manual Entry** and the screen above appears. Then, click the calendar icon, choose a date, and click **Continue**.





Manual entry of ridership data is a simple process and requires only the selection of boxes and entering key pieces of information.

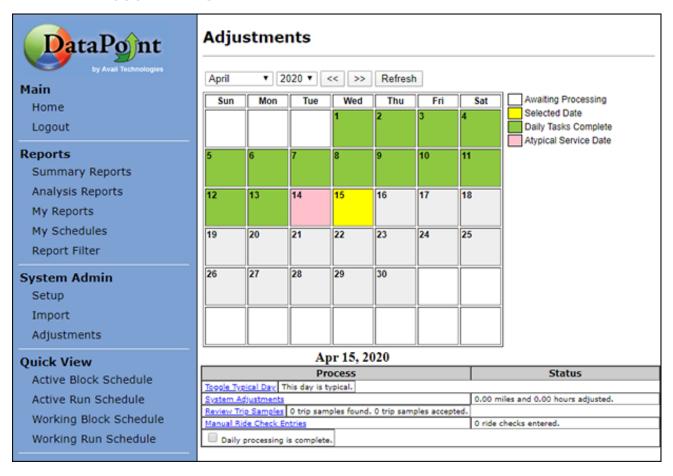
DataPoint makes the Manual Entry process easier by showing only the Trip and Stop lists for the route that you select. Additionally, DataPoint provides a list of all your fare types, and a place to enter how many riders for each fare type were picked up at each stop.

- 1. Select the **Route**. Then select a **Trip** from that Route, and a **Stop** from that Trip.
- 2. Select the Bus, Driver, and Run.
- 3. Select the **Date** and enter the **Time**.
- 4. Enter the amount of cash collected and the fare types for that stop.
- 5. Click **Add Record** and continue with the next stop, and then trip, until the end of that day.

When your list is complete, click **Bus Summary and Import** to review your work. Complete the process and import the data into DataPoint by clicking **Finish and Import** on the Bus Summary and Import screen.



4.2. ADJUSTMENTS



The adjustments calendar guides you through the daily tasks that you need to complete. To see the list of tasks, click on a day in the calendar. The table displays the name and status of each process for that day.

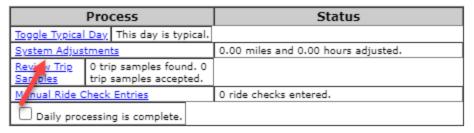
- Toggle Typical Day: Marking a day as Atypical causes the NTD report to ignore that day when doing its calculations. Days should be marked as Atypical only for major changes in service, such as a natural disaster as defined by the NTD.
- System Adjustments: Adjustments are used to modify the miles and hours serviced for a day when a trip does not perform its scheduled service. When adjustments are made they are accounted for in the NTD reports and used by the Missing Trips summary report.
- Review Trip Samples: Loads trip samples for review. Transit personnel must review trip samples before the system can include them in reporting. The review screen is described in more detail below.
- Manual Ride Check Entries: Forms that allow DataPoint users to enter ride check data that personnel recorded while riding vehicles, such as boards, alights, and their notes.

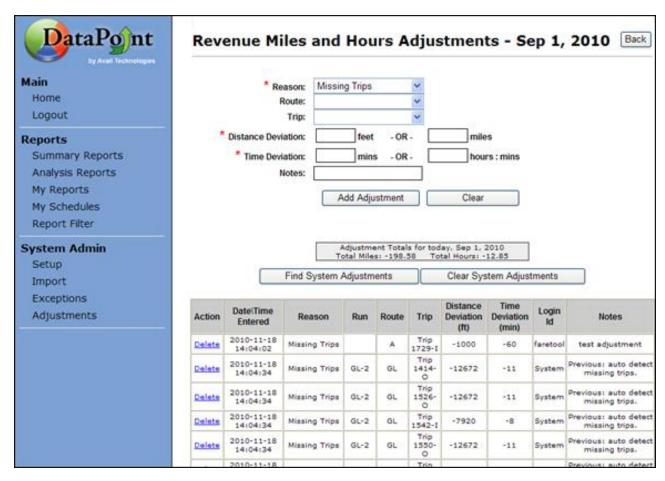


4.2.1. System Adjustments

Adjustments are changes to the miles or hours of a trip and/or route that have been run. Any service that did not follow the scheduled service should have an adjustment. When adjustments are made, they are accounted for in NTD reports and used by the Missing Trips summary report. If NTD and Missing Trips reports are not used, adjustments are not required but they can be helpful for tracking unscheduled service changes.

To open System Adjustment page, go to Adjustments section, pick a day in the calendar and click on the System Adjustments link.





The Find System Adjustments button adds missed trips or additional trips to the table. DataPoint identifies these trips by assessing the vehicle data. You should review each of these entries to verify that they are accurate. For example, the system might flag a trip as being missed because the database does not include any data for that trip. However, the



vehicle might have been unequipped on that trip and, therefore, the trip was not actually missed. In that case you need to Delete that entry from the table.

Tip: Clicking Find System Adjustments multiple times adds all system adjustments back to the list, even if they had been previously deleted.

The system only determines that a trip had been missed trip if there are no data at all in the database for that trip. For example, if an operator starts a trip but cannot complete it due to a vehicle breakdown, the system does not enter it into the adjustments table. DataPoint users must enter the missing portion into the table manually using the fields at the top of the page.

Leaving the route or trip field blank adds these adjustments to the report for that day but not for a specific route or trip. While this is not a good practice due to the ambiguity, the NTD report does not require that a route or trip be specified because it is based on weekday, Saturday, and Sunday.

In **Distance Deviation** and **Time Deviation**, enter negative values for scheduled services that were not performed. Enter positive values for additional services that were provided beyond those that were scheduled. Click **Add Adjustment** to add it to the table.

Click Clear System Adjustments to clear the list of adjustments that DataPoint found automatically. This button is useful if Find System Adjustments had been pressed before the data were imported.



NOTE: Missing trips from system adjustments do not depend on whether exceptions have been done for that day but there must be an import for that day.

4.2.2. REVIEW TRIP SAMPLES

Use the NTD Trip Sample Review screen to accept or decline the trip samples that were selected for NTD reporting. Trips should be accepted or declined based on whether the trip appears to be valid. Trips with negative or high Estimated Ride-through counts are more likely to be invalid trips.

The system generates a list of samples when you select Review Trip Samples link.

Process		Status		
Toggle Typical	Day This day is typical.			
System Adjustments		0.00 miles and 0.00 hours adjusted.		
	0 trip samples found. 0 trip samples accepted.			
Manual Ride Check Entries		0 ride checks entered.		
☐ Daily prod	essing is complete.			

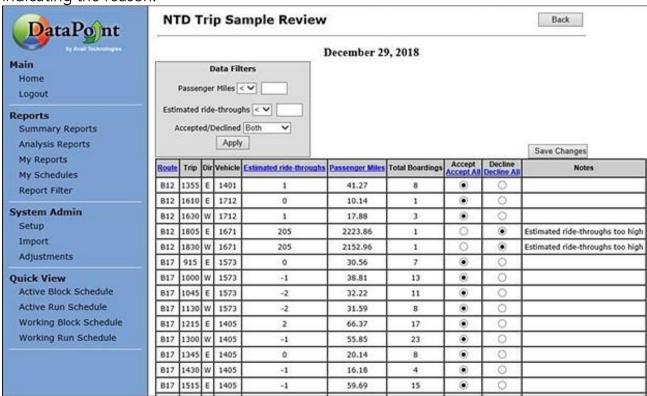
The list contains trips that have an APC report for each stop and have APC counts that are not above the plausibility threshold. This threshold is configurable.

Use the Data Filters to filter out trips by the following characteristics:



- Passenger Miles: When passenger miles are less than the miles you specify, the system does not include those trips in the list (default). You can change the filter to remove trips with passenger miles greater than the amount you specify.
- Estimated ride-throughs: When differences between boards and alights for the trip are less than the percentage you specify, the system does not include those trips in the list (default). You can change the filter to remove trips with differences greater than the amount you specify.
- Accepted/Declined: When trips have previously been accepted or declined, the system does not include those trips in the list (default). You can change the filter to display previously accepted and/or declined trips. This filter is helpful when you need to change the status of a trip that had previously been accepted or declined.

The NTD Trip Sample Review page below displays two declined trips with the note field indicating the reason.



This page provides several features that can help you determine whether a sample is valid. Only accepted trips are used in reporting.

- Data Filters: Passenger Miles, Starting Onboard, and Accepted/Declined allow users to filter the list of samples to look for possible issues such as high starting onboard counts.
- Sorting: Click a blue column name to sort the list by that column. Click a second time to sort that column the other direction.
- Accept/Decline All: Click these buttons to either accept or decline all samples that are displayed in the list. If the list is filtered, only the displayed trips are affected.
- Save Changes: Click to save the state of the Accept and Decline radio buttons for



all trips.

• Sample Row: Clicking on a row itself brings up the trip sample detail view. This view allows you to see every stop and the boarding, onboard, and alighting for each stop.

The best way to process this data is to do the following:

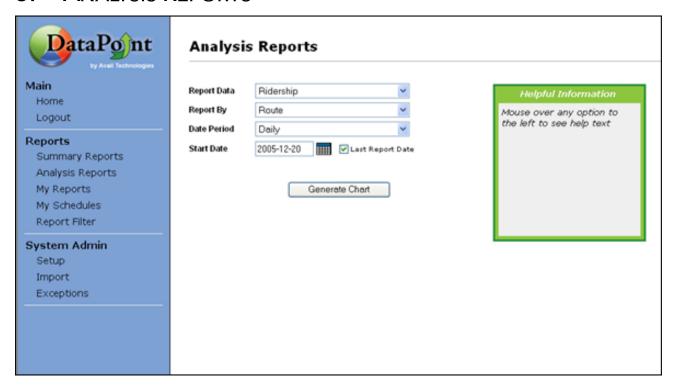
- 1. Click Accept All.
- 2. Click the Starting Onboard column to sort the report.
- 3. Review each sample and decline bad samples. Pay particular attention to samples with negative and unusually high staring onboard counts.
- 4. Click Save Changes.



NOTE: Due to migration of DataPoint reports, NTD Trip Samples Report and NTD Summary Report are now also located in our ETMS system under Compliance suite/NTD Reporting card. For names and location of all the DataPoint reports, see our *DataPoint and BI Report Mapping* pdf document.



5. ANALYSIS REPORTS



Use the options in the Analysis Reports screen to quickly create detailed charts based on a variety of categories.

- Report Data: Select the data that you want to view. Options include Ridership, Farebox Ridership, Farebox Valuation, APC Data, and Non-Ridership.
- Report By: Select how you want to categorize the data. Options include route, fare, vehicle, operator, run stop, service level, and time unit.
- Date Period: Select the timeframe for the report. Options include daily, weekly, monthly, year to date, and user (which has no boundaries and will show data that occurred anywhere in between the two dates you enter in below).
- **Start Date**: Use the calendar to specify the starting date for the report. If you select *User Defined* in **Date Period**, you also need to specify the end date.

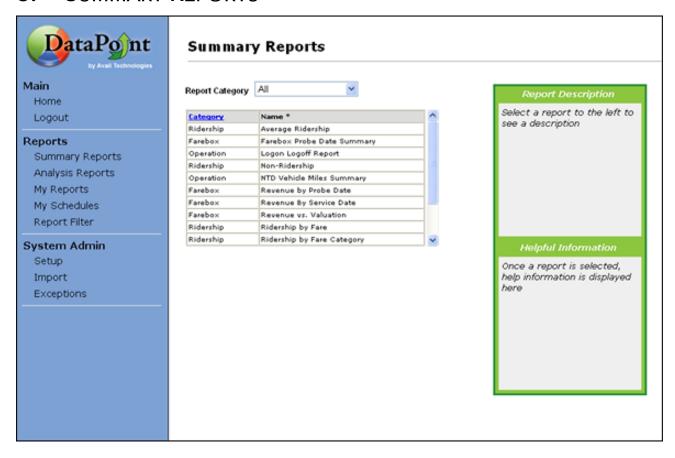


5.1. IN-REPORT FEATURES

Chart Screen	Route 104 Route 106 Route 107 Route 108 Route 109 Route 110 Route 111 Route 120 0 500			
Analysis Chart	The analysis chart allows you to view the data in an efficient and simple way. If you move your mouse over any of the bars of the chart, you will see a box that displays the value of that bar. If you click on a bar, you willdrill-down into more specific data. Selected drill-down options are visible below the title of the chart. E.g. clicking on Route 104 in the chart above would bring up a chart with drill-down option Route = 104.			
Report By Options	Fare Bus Driver Run Service Level Best Fit Day Hour			
	Clicking the links creates a chart using the category you select. The report displays the same underlying data butusing different categories.			
	For example, if you click 'Bus' for the chart above, the chart will display ridership counts by bus. (e.g., Bus 1, Bus 2, etc.) rather than routes (e.g., Route 104, Route 106, etc.).			
Fare Table	Fare Table Route Table Printer Friendly Format			
	This button will take the current data and break it down further to show the data by fare type columns and the currently selected report by option.			
Route Table	This button will take the current data and break it down further to show the data by route columns and the currently selected report by option.			
Printer Friendly Format	Click here to see a printer friendly version of the chart. This format is more ideally suited for printing.			



6. SUMMARY REPORTS



Summary reports are a series of reports grouped by type (Farebox, Operations and Ridership). These reports can assist your property in both daily operations and long-term planning.

Creating a Summary Report is almost identical to the Analysis Reports. Select from the drop-down boxes to specify the type of report to generate, the timeframe it covers, and the dates you would like to view. Each summary report has customized options with a description of each option in the help box on the right side of the screen. Clicking on Run now will give you a neatly designed report of the information you requested.



NOTE: The Business Intelligence tool is supplementing the myAvail reporting functions. This embedded reporting tool has additional capabilities and should be used for additional reports. See the *Business Intelligence User Guide* and *Business Intelligence Report Guide* for details on this tool.

