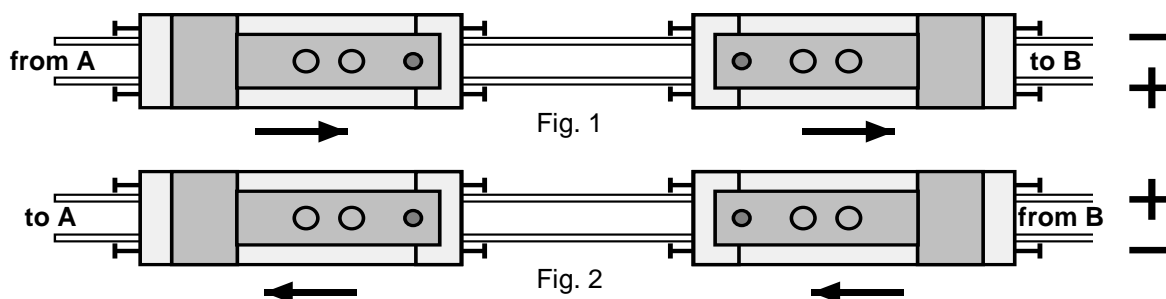


1. General

- 1.1 The "**direction**" of a traction unit can be determined in relation to its outer shape; "forward" means per example smoke box, cab "V" or "1" in front.
- 1.2 The "**direction of traffic**" on a track can be determined in relation to the route, for example from A to B (Fig. 1).

2. Two-rail operation

- 2.1 The polarity of the rails determines the direction of traffic.
- 2.2 The position of the locomotives on the track is of no importance.
- 2.3 The right-hand rail in the direction of traffic is positive (Figs. 1 and 2).



3. Overhead wire operation

- 3.1 The polarity of the overhead wire determines the direction of travel.
- 3.2 The NEM 621 standard determines the position of the traction unit on the track.
- 3.3 The "common side" of the traction unit, marked by the symbol "Q", is located on the left-hand rail in the direction of travel if the overhead wire is positive (Figs. 3 and 6). The other rail has no significance for this type of electricity supply.

