962-20-843   **Julia D Fredericks*** (`jfredericks@jcu.edu`), Department of Mathematics, John Carroll University, 10700 N. Park Ave, University Hts., OH 44118. *A Freiheitssatz for Semi-Staggered Relative Presentations.*

A relative presentation is a triple $\mathcal{P} = (A, X : R)$ where A is a group, X is any set, and R is a collection of words in the free product $A * F(X)$ (where $F(X)$ is the free group with basis X). Under certain hypothesis on the relative presentation $\mathcal{P}$, (1) the group presented by $\mathcal{P}$ is locally indicable; (2) the pre-aspherical model for $\mathcal{P}$ is aspherical; (3) the Freiheitssatz holds for the presentation $\mathcal{P}$. The result has applications in the computation of the cohomology of groups and the field of equations over groups. (Received September 27, 2000)

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