

Geocoder API

Release Notes

Version 6.2.119

here

Important Information

Notices

Topics:

- [Legal Notices](#)
- [Document Information](#)

This section contains document notices.

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Chapter 1

Overview

Topics:

- [Map Data Version](#)
- [Highlights](#)

The scope of this document is to provide the release notes for the Geocoder API for a particular release version. It lists added and improved functionality as well as the issues resolved and known issues remaining in this release.

Map Data Version

The Geocoder API provides weekly map updates. Weekly map data updates are based on 2016Q3 data releases for most countries.

The following exceptions exist for countries with HERE map content coverage (Entry or Intermediate map content are not listed here):

- Hong Kong and Macau remain at 2015Q3 and are not updated on a weekly basis.
- Indonesia remains at 2016Q1 with 2015Q1 map schema. The new 2016Q1 schema introduces naming changes for this country that require changes in the Geocoder software. These changes are scheduled for implementation in a subsequent release.

Highlights

The following highlights give a short summary of the most important changes, added functionality and improvements:

- Italy: Improved tolerance when single words are omitted from multi word city names.
- Italy: Match rate and match precision improvements with addressline-only support in Italy. Users can search for addresses with house number and street name without any locality indication.
- Mexico: Increased match quality by adding alternative city names to the Geocoder index.
- Finland: Improved address matching and address results by using Postal Area (PA) zone data.
- Other enhancements and bug fixes.

Chapter 2

Changes

Topics:

- [Functional and Behavioral ...](#)
- [API Changes](#)
- [Resolved Issues](#)
- [Known Issues](#)
- [Limitations and Workaround...](#)

This section documents major changes to the release that may require the updating of affected applications and/or associated map data.

📖 **Note:** For changes made in previous releases, see the related documents at <http://developer.here.com>.

Functional and Behavioral Changes

The following table contains descriptions of added or changed functionality and changes in product behavior.

#	Description
1	<p>Finland: Improved address matching and address results by using Postal Area (PA) zone data.</p> <p>The Geocoder now supports the postal view of addressing in Finland by using Postal Area (PA) zone data. A PA zone may be organized at the level of city or district depending on the type of the associated administrative area.</p> <p>Examples:</p> <p>Query:</p> <pre>searchtext=Laitamaantie 43, 02820 Espoo</pre> <p>This address is located within the municipality of Kirkkonummi. But from the postal view the address is still part of the city Espoo. Previously, the Geocoder was able to find the correct address but only by matching the postal code. The city name (Espoo) was not matched.</p> <p>Previous result:</p> <p>Result at the correct location but low relevance (79%) because the city name is not matched.</p> <pre>relevance: 0.79, matchLevel: "houseNumber", matchQuality: { street: [1], houseNumber: 1, postalCode: 1 }, matchType: "pointAddress", location: { ... address: { label: "Laitamaantie 43, FI-02820 Kirkkonummi, Finland", country: "FIN", state: "South Finland", county: "Uusimaa", city: "Kirkkonummi", district: "Laitamaa", street: "Laitamaantie", houseNumber: "43", postalCode: "02820", ... </pre> <p>Current result:</p> <p>Correct result found within PA zone Espoo. The city name Espoo is now matched, the result relevance is 100%, and the postal city name is shown in the result. The location itself is the same as previously.</p> <pre>relevance: 1, matchLevel: "houseNumber", matchQuality: { city: 1, street: [1], </pre>

#	Description
	<pre> houseNumber: 1, postalCode: 1 }, matchType: "pointAddress", location: { ... address: { label: "Laitamaantie 43, FI-02820 Espoo, Finland", country: "FIN", state: "South Finland", county: "Uusimaa", city: "Espoo", district: "Laitamaa", street: "Laitamaantie", houseNumber: "43", postalCode: "02820", ... </pre> <p>Query:</p> <pre>searchtext=Laurilantie 19, Alvettula</pre> <p>This address is located outside of any built-up area. But from the postal view this area belongs to the village Alvettula.</p> <p>Previous result:</p> <p>Empty response.</p> <p>Current result:</p> <p>The Geocoder now can find the address by matching the name of the PA zone, which is associated to the district (village). The label also reflects the postal view and shows the village name.</p> <pre> relevance: 1, matchLevel: "houseNumber", matchQuality: { district: 1, street: [1], houseNumber: 1 }, matchType: "interpolated", location: { ... address: { label: "Laurilantie 19, FI-14680 Alvettula, Finland", country: "FIN", state: "South Finland", county: "Kanta-Häme", city: "Hameenlinna", district: "Alvettula", street: "Laurilantie", houseNumber: "19", postalCode: "14680", ... </pre>

2

Italy: Improved tolerance when single words are omitted from multi word city names.

A large percentage of city names in Italy consist of two or more words. In queries, users tend to omit some of the words. The Geocoder is now tolerant to two major patterns of those omissions. It responds with high confidence matches for cases where the omitted word is not required for disambiguation.

#	Description
	<p>Omitting function words in city names, such as articles or prepositions, typically does not add any ambiguity. Therefore, the Geocoder tolerates this without any additional penalty in relevance or match quality.</p> <p>Examples:</p> <p>Query:</p> <p>The city name in the query is "Casasco Intelvi" instead of "Casasco d'Intelvi".</p> <pre>searchtext=Via Trieste, 8, Casasco Intelvi</pre> <p>Previous result:</p> <p>Correct result but with lowered relevance and match quality.</p> <pre>relevance: 0.94, matchLevel: "houseNumber", matchQuality: { city: 0.88, street: [1], houseNumber: 1 }, matchType: "pointAddress", location: { ... address: { label: "Via Trieste, 8, 22022 Casasco d'Intelvi CO, Italia", country: "ITA", state: "Lombardia", county: "CO", city: "Casasco d'Intelvi", street: "Via Trieste", houseNumber: "8", postalCode: "22022", ... } }</pre> <p>Current result:</p> <p>Correct and high confidence results. The Geocoder now tolerates the omitted word "d'" in the city name.</p> <pre>relevance: 1, matchLevel: "houseNumber", matchQuality: { city: 1, street: [1], houseNumber: 1 }, matchType: "pointAddress", location: { ... address: { label: "Via Trieste, 8, 22022 Casasco d'Intelvi CO, Italia", country: "ITA", state: "Lombardia", county: "CO", city: "Casasco d'Intelvi", street: "Via Trieste", houseNumber: "8", postalCode: "22022", ... } }</pre> <p>Query:</p> <pre>searchtext=Via Foscarini, 4, Nervesa Battaglia</pre>

#	Description
	<p>Previous result:</p> <p>Empty response. The Geocoder finds the result in the search index but the confidence is so low that it does not return it.</p> <p>Current result:</p> <p>Correct and high confidence results. The Geocoder now tolerates the omitted word "della" in the city name.</p> <pre> relevance: 1, matchLevel: "houseNumber", matchQuality: { city: 1, street: [1], houseNumber: 1 }, matchType: "pointAddress", location: { ... address: { label: "Via Foscarini, 4, 31040 Nervesa della Battaglia TV, Italia", country: "ITA", state: "Veneto", county: "TV", city: "Nervesa della Battaglia", district: "Bidasio", street: "Via Foscarini", houseNumber: "4", postalCode: "31040", ... } } </pre>

3	<p>Mexico: Increased match quality by adding alternative city names to the Geocoder index.</p> <p>We added alternative city names from known-as zone (KD zone) data to the Geocoder index in Mexico. People use these names in area and address search instead of the administrative city names. The Geocoder matches all these names when used in queries and also returns them as the preferred name from Reverse Geocoding.</p> <p>Examples:</p> <p>Query:</p> <p>Query for district Playa Car in Playa del Carmen. The administrative city name is Solidaridad.</p> <pre>searchtext=Playa Car, Playa del Carmen, QROO, Mexico</pre> <p>Previous result:</p> <p>Two street level results. They are both wrong because the query is for the district Playa Car in Playa del Carmen. Playa del Carmen was not recognized by the Geocoder.</p> <pre> Calle Playa del Carmen, Supmz 29, 77508 Cancún, QROO, México Calle Playa del Carmen, Mundo Habitat, 77714 Solidaridad, QROO, México </pre> <p>Current result:</p> <p>Correct district in the area of the alternative city Playa del Carmen.</p> <pre>Playa Car, Playa del Carmen, QROO, México</pre> <p>Query:</p>
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#	Description
	<p>Query for address in Los Mochis. The administrative city name for this location is Ahome.</p> <pre>searchtext=Avenida Lazaro Cardenas 317 Los Mochis</pre> <p>Previous result:</p> <p>Empty response. The Geocoder did not recognize the city name Los Mochis.</p> <p>Current result:</p> <p>Correct address in city Los Mochis. The Geocoder finds the complete address by matching Los Mochis as city, which partly overlaps with the area of the administrative city Ahome.</p> <p>Note: Los Mochis is now also the city name returned by Reverse Geocoding for this location.</p> <pre>label: "Avenida Lázaro Cárdenas 317, Fracc Los Mochis Centro, 81254 Los Mochis, SIN, México", country: "MEX", state: "SIN", city: "Los Mochis", district: "Fracc Los Mochis Centro", street: "Avenida Lázaro Cárdenas", houseNumber: "317", postalCode: "81254"</pre>
4	<p>Italy: Match rate and match precision improvements with addressline-only support.</p> <p>Addressline-only queries are now supported for Italy. Addresses from queries without locality (district,city) or postal code and without additional user context (map view) can now be found.</p> <p>Example:</p> <pre>searchtext=Piazza S. Carlo, 156</pre> <p>Previous result:</p> <p>Empty response.</p> <p>Current result:</p> <pre>relevance: 0.89, matchLevel: "houseNumber", matchQuality: { street: [0.95], houseNumber: 1 }, matchType: "pointAddress", location: { ... address: { label: "Piazza San Carlo, 156, 10121 Torino TO, Italia", country: "ITA", state: "Piemonte", county: "TO", city: "Torino", district: "Centro", street: "Piazza San Carlo", houseNumber: "156", postalCode: "10121", ... } }</pre> <p>Addressline-only queries are now supported for the following countries: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Estonia, Hong Kong, Italy, Latvia, Macao, Mexico, Russia, Spain, Turkey</p>

API Changes

Added

- None.

Removed

- None.

Modified

- None.

Resolved Issues

The following table contains resolved issues. The list summarizes major resolved issues relevant for a broad audience.

#	Description
1	<p>Geocoder in some cases returns duplicate results for districts in USA, Canada, and Virgin Islands.</p> <p>This is fixed now. There were 3160 potential duplicates where the Geocoder takes one district entry from hamlet data and the other entry for the same district from neighborhood zone (NB zone) data. NB zone data now takes preference over hamlet data.</p> <p>Examples where previously duplicate results were returned from Forward or Reverse Geocoder:</p> <p>Johnson Beach, Châteauguay, Roussillon, QC, CAN</p> <p>Eastside, Sault Ste Marie, Algoma, ON, CAN</p> <p>Cimarron Hills, El Paso, CO, USA</p>
2	<p>Over-generalized country shapes for New Zealand and Indonesia</p> <p>The country shapes returned by the Geocoder are generalized to limit the size and as a result network latency. For countries with a large number of small islands this generalization was not working as expected and produced malformed shapes.</p> <p>This is fixed now. The generalization algorithm has been optimized. Affected countries are for example New Zealand and Indonesia.</p> <p>The image below show a large group of islands that belong to Indonesia with a shape overlay:</p>

#	Description
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To get shape information from Forward or Reverse Geocoding add `additionaldata=IncludeShapeLevel,<level>` to the request. Valid shape levels are: `country`, `state`, `county`, `city`, `district`, `postalCode`, `default`. Level `default` returns the area shape corresponding to the match level.

3	<p>UK postal codes not found.</p> <p>Some UK postal codes were not found by the Geocoder anymore. For example, WF4 1BG was not found anymore. This has been fixed. The data has been updated.</p>
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Known Issues

The following table lists issues known to be present in the current release of the Geocoder API.

#	Description
1	Taiwan Geocoding - Island Names cannot be geocoded - 2013Q3 TWN Map improvements

#	Description
	Islands to be considered as part of Taiwan.
2	<p>Taiwan - Street Fallback - Returning the Best Candidate</p> <p>If an address is not in the map, either a house number fallback or up-hierarchy street level match is expected. But in some cases, the Geocoder returns an address in the wrong street or lane.</p> <p>Example:</p> <p>彰化縣彰化市介壽北路1號</p> <p>House number 1 is not in the map data. The result is therefore a fallback to house number 19:</p> <p>No. 19, Jie Shou N. Rd., Changhua City, Changhua County 500, Taiwan</p> <p>But if a house number fallback is not accepted (parameter: <code>additionaldata=HouseNumberMode,Streetlevel</code>), then the result is expected to be a street level match:</p> <p>Jie Shou N. Rd., Changhua City, Changhua County 500, Taiwan</p> <p>The current response is an address match in a different – although close - street (South instead of North) and in a lane while the request did not specify a lane:</p> <p>No. 1, Lane 36, Jie Shou S. Rd., Changhua City, Changhua County 500, Taiwan</p>
3	<p>China: Reverse Geocoder <code>retrieveAreas</code> response not aligned with <code>mode=retrieveAddresses</code></p> <p>The Reverse Geocoder <code>retrieveAreas</code> response is not aligned with the response from <code>retrieveAddresses</code> and Forward Geocoder. City and district names are only available in Chinese, the county information is incorrect, and the state is empty even though it should contain Chinese provinces.</p>
4	<p>Labels for highway exits do not include the exit number.</p> <p>The label only contains the highway name.</p> <p>Workaround: Use highway name and exit number from the <code>name</code> field.</p>
5	<p>The navigation coordinate in the response for Hong Kong building name matches is not always correct. It is the same as the display coordinate. The navigation coordinate is correct only when the query matches a house number in addition to the building name (<code>MatchQuality</code> element <code>houseNumber</code> exists in the result).</p> <p>Example:</p> <p>The queries</p> <p>Shek Wu Shui Baptist Chapel, Hong Kong</p> <p>and</p> <p>Shek Wu Shui Baptist Chapel, 33 Fu Hing St, Hong Kong</p> <p>both match to the same address. But the navigation coordinate is correct for the latter query only.</p>

Limitations and Workarounds

There are no limitations and workarounds in this release.