

Geocoder API

Release Notes

Version 6.2.115

here

Important Information

Notices

Topics:

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

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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. The base line for the map schema is 2016Q1. Weekly map data updates are based on 2016Q2 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. Not updated weekly.
- 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 to be implemented in a subsequent release.

Highlights

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

- India: Improved match rate in India by allowing more postal code matches instead of empty results.
- Mexico: Increased match quality and decreased ambiguity in address search with support for the larger (state) area postal code.
- Mexico and Canada: Improved house number address matching by handling unqualified unit numbers that accompany house numbers.
- USA: Improved matching and labeling by adding known-as names (KD zones) to the Geocoder search index and result.
- 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>India: Return an up-hierarchy postal code match instead of an empty result.</p> <p>Queries in India are often very long and contain references to locations that the Geocoder cannot recognize or match. In many cases, these noisy queries lead to empty results.</p> <p>This behavior has been improved. The Geocoder now tries to identify at least the postal code and city name in queries and tolerates up-hierarchy low relevance results if at least the match quality of the postal code and city is high enough.</p> <p>Note: The overall <code>relevance</code> of results can be very low for India queries now, approximately 20 to 30%. Even if the Geocoder cannot recognize large portions of the input query it still tries to provide a result. This rule applies to Indian queries only. For other countries the Geocoder typically does not respond with a result when the <code>relevance</code> drops below approximately 50%.</p> <p>Examples:</p> <p>Query:</p> <pre>searchtext=C/o Radhakrishna Foodland Pvt. Ltd., 6/7, Jyoti Wire House, 23 A Shah Industrial Estate Off Veera Desai Road, Andheri (west),, Mumbai - 400053, Maharashtra, India &responseattributes=matchCode</pre> <p>Previous result:</p> <p>Empty response.</p> <p>Current result:</p> <p>Up--hierarchy postal code match. The overall <code>relevance</code> of the result is very low (24%) because the Geocoder was not able to match a large portion of the input query.</p> <pre>relevance: 0.24, matchLevel: "postalCode", matchQuality: { country: 1, state: 1, city: 1, postalCode: 1 ... address: { label: "400053, Mumbai, MH, India", country: "IND", state: "MH", county: "Mumbai Suburban", city: "Mumbai", postalCode: "400053" ... matchCode: "upHierarchy"</pre>

#	Description
2	<p>Mexico: Increased match quality and decreased ambiguity in address search with support for the use of the larger (state) area postal code.</p> <p>In Mexico, using postal codes for address search is very common and postal codes are important for disambiguation. Postal codes in Mexico have 5 digits where the first 2 digits identify a larger area such as a state or a large part of it. Instead of the complete precise postal code, people often just provide the first two digits of the larger area postal code and fill this up with 3 trailing zeros. For example, "64000", which corresponds to the whole Monterrey area.</p> <p>Now, the Geocoder accepts postal codes ending with 3 zeros for any address where the postal code matches the first 2 digits. Previously, the Geocoder supported only exact or fuzzy matches of postal codes in Mexico where all digits had the same weight.</p> <p>The Geocoder applies a penalty of 10% to <code>matchQuality.postalCode</code> for these matches to indicate that the postal code does not match completely but still with high confidence.</p> <p>Example:</p> <p>Query:</p> <pre>searchtext=Hidalgo 77 Guerrero 06000 MEXICO, Distrito Federal, Mexico</pre> <p>Previous result:</p> <p>Two ambiguous results and with the wrong postal area code.</p> <pre>label: Vicente Guerrero 77, Emiliano Zapata, 04815 Coyoacán, DF, Mexico label: Vicente Guerrero 77, Unidad Hab Isidro Fabela S Cantil, 14039 Tlalpan, DF, Mexico</pre> <p>Current result:</p> <p>Single correct result. The Geocoder matched postal code "06000" to "06300".</p> <pre>label: Avenida Hidalgo 77, Guerrero, 06300 Cuauhtémoc, DF, Mexico matchQuality.postalCode: 0.9</pre>
3	<p>Mexico and Canada: Improved house number address matching by handling unqualified unit numbers that accompany house numbers.</p> <p>Secondary unit numbers such as apartment or floor numbers can be provided either before the house number for Canadian addresses or after the house number for Mexican addresses. Previously, the Geocoder mis-interpreted these unit numbers as house numbers; now their position in the search query helps to identify the correct house number relative to the respective formats of Canada and Mexico.</p> <p>Examples:</p> <p>Canada: In the following query 600 is the secondary unit number, 321 is the house number. Note, that this is with the parameter <code>additionaldata=PreserveUnitDesignators,true</code> in the example request. The parameter instructs the Geocoder to provide the unit designator and unit name in the result, if any unit information is found. The parameter has no impact on the query parser or on the matching algorithm.</p> <p>Query:</p> <pre>searchtext=600, 321-6 Ave SW, Calgary, AB T2P 3H3 &additionaldata=PreserveUnitDesignators,true</pre> <p>Previous result:</p>

#	Description
	<p>Match to the wrong address because the Geocoder interpreted the first number 600 as house number. The number 321 is ignored. The Geocoder did not recognize any unit number.</p> <pre> relevance: 0.89, matchLevel: "houseNumber", matchQuality: { state: 1, city: 1, street: [1], houseNumber: 1, postalCode: 0.57 ... address: { label: "600 6 Ave SW, Calgary, AB T2P 0S5, Canada", country: "CAN", state: "AB", county: "Alberta", city: "Calgary", district: "Downtown", street: "6 Ave SW", houseNumber: "600", postalCode: "T2P 0S5" ... </pre> <p>Current result:</p> <p>Correct address match to house number 312. The Geocoder also recognized the unit number 600. It is included in the result in the <code>additionalData</code> section. There was no unit designator in the query. The key therefore shows "UnknownUnit".</p> <pre> relevance: 1, matchLevel: "houseNumber", matchQuality: { state: 1, city: 1, street: [1], houseNumber: 1, postalCode: 1 ... address: { label: "321 6 Ave SW, Calgary, AB T2P 3H3, Canada", country: "CAN", state: "AB", county: "Alberta", city: "Calgary", district: "Downtown", street: "6 Ave SW", houseNumber: "321", postalCode: "T2P 3H3", additionalData: [{ value: "600", key: "UnknownUnit" }] ... </pre> <p>Mexico: In Mexico, the number (or alpha-numeric group) after the house number is usually a unit number.</p>

#	Description
	<p>Query:</p> <pre>searchtext=Av Homero 205 5, 11580 CIUDAD DE MEXICO, DISTRITO FEDERAL, Mexico &additionaldata=PreserveUnitDesignators,true</pre> <p>Previous result:</p> <p>Street level match to the wrong street. The unit number 5 is matched to the street name.</p> <pre>relevance: 0.79, matchLevel: "houseNumber", matchQuality: { country: 1, state: 1, city: 1, street: [1], houseNumber: 1, postalCode: 0.64 } matchType: "interpolated" ... address: { label: "Norte 5 205, Moctezuma 2da Secc, 15530 Venustiano Carranza, DF, Mexico", country: "MEX", state: "DF", county: "Mexico City", city: "Venustiano Carranza", district: "Moctezuma 2da Secc", street: "Norte 5", houseNumber: "205", postalCode: "15530" ... }</pre> <p>Current result:</p> <p>Correct address match to house number 205. The Geocoder also recognized the unit number 5.</p> <pre>relevance: 1, matchLevel: "houseNumber", matchQuality: { country: 1, state: 1, city: 1, street: [1], houseNumber: 1, postalCode: 1 }, matchType: "pointAddress" ... address: { label: "Avenida Homero 205, Chapultepec Morales, 11580 Miguel Hidalgo, DF, Mexico", country: "MEX", state: "DF", county: "Mexico City", city: "Miguel Hidalgo", district: "Chapultepec Morales", street: "Avenida Homero", houseNumber: "205", postalCode: "11580", additionalData: [</pre>

#	Description
	<pre> { value: "5", key: "UnknownUnit" } ... </pre>

4 USA: Improved matching and labeling by adding known-as names (KD zones) to the Geocoder search index and result.

KD zone names are added for USA addresses where the zone refers to an unofficial sub-locality name (district) or to an unofficial locality name (city). In the first case the KD zone name is matched to the district and is added to the address element as district. In the latter case the KD zone name is matched to the city and the matched name is shown in the label.

Examples:

Query where KD zone refers to an unofficial sub-locality name:

```
searchtext=1358 Brinkley Avenue, Brentwood, CA, USA
```

Previous result:

City match to the wrong city.

```

relevance: 0.5,
matchLevel: "city",
...
address: {
  label: "Brentwood, CA, United States",
  country: "USA",
  state: "CA",
  county: "Contra Costa",
  city: "Brentwood",
  postalCode: "94513"
}
...

```

Current result:

Correct address match. KD zone name "Brentwood" is included in result as district.

```

relevance: 1,
matchLevel: "houseNumber",
...
address: {
  label: "1358 Brinkley Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90049, United States",
  country: "USA",
  state: "CA",
  county: "Los Angeles",
  city: "Los Angeles",
  district: "Brentwood",
  street: "Brinkley Ave",
  houseNumber: "1358",
  postalCode: "90049"
}
...

```

Query where KD zone refers to an unofficial locality name. The name "The Woodlands" is a name recognized by USPS for addresses in postal code 77381. The default city name is "Spring".

```
searchtext=234 S Berryline Circle The Woodlands, TX 77381, US
```

Previous result:



#	Description
	<p>Correct address match. But name "The Woodlands" is not shown in label or address element.</p> <pre> relevance: 1, matchLevel: "houseNumber", ... address: { label: "1401 Woodlands Pkwy, Spring, TX 77380, United States", country: "USA", state: "TX", county: "Montgomery", city: "Spring", district: "Grogan's Mill", street: "Woodlands Pkwy", houseNumber: "1401", postalCode: "77380" ... </pre> <p>Current result:</p> <p>Correct address match. The name "The Woodlands" is now shown in the label and address elements so that end users can better recognize the result.</p> <pre> relevance: 1, matchLevel: "houseNumber", ... address: { label: "1401 Woodlands Pkwy, The Woodlands, TX 77380, United States", country: "USA", state: "TX", county: "Montgomery", city: "The Woodlands", district: "Grogan's Mill", street: "Woodlands Pkwy", houseNumber: "1401", postalCode: "77380" ... </pre>
5	<p>Disputed Borders: Added Reverse Geocoder view on Lake Malawi disputed area.</p> <p>The disputed country border on the Lake Malawi lying between Tanzania and Malawi is now presented as neutral territory. Malawi's country and administrative border on the Lake Malawi stops at the middle of the lake. Tanzania's country and administrative border on the Lake Malawi stops on the shore of Tanzania and does not extend into the middle of the lake.</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>Capital city Kuala Lumpur is being returned as KL in Geocoding.</p> <p>The city name of Kuala Lumpur was KL in Geocoder results:</p> <pre>city: KL</pre> <p>This is fixed. The city name is now again:</p> <pre>city: Kuala Lumpur</pre>
2	<p>Disputed Borders: "South Patagonian Ice Fields" should be neutral territory (empty response) in ARG political view.</p> <p>When Reverse Geocoding inside the area of the "South Patagonian Ice Fields" with <code>politicalview=ARG</code> the Geocoder is expected to return nothing as this is neutral territory (no-man's land). Instead, the Geocoder is returning administrative names from Argentina.</p> <p>The ARG view should see the area of the Ice field as neutral territory.</p> <p>Example ARG:</p> <pre>reversegeocode.json?mode=retrieveAreas &-49.4286077,-73.2129860 &politicalView=ARG</pre> <p>Previous result:</p> <pre>label: Lago Argentino, Santa Cruz, Argentina country: ARG state: Santa Cruz county: Lago Argentino city: Lago Argentino postalCode: 9405</pre> <p>This issue is fixed. Current result for ARG view:</p> <p>Neutral territory. Empty response.</p>

Known Issues

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

#	Description
1	<p>Taiwan Geocoding - Island Names cannot be geocoded - 2013Q3 TWN Map improvements</p> <p>Islands to be considered as part of Taiwan.</p>
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 – though 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>
6	<p>The map reference for Canada street level matches can be wrong in some cases.</p>

#	Description
	<p>When querying for a street with a high precision postal code in Canada, the Geocoder returns a point that is close to the coordinate of the high precision postal code.</p> <p>In some of these cases, results have incorrect <code>mapReference</code> details. The (<code>referenceID</code>, <code>Spot</code> and <code>SideOfStreet</code>) are not correct for the position.</p> <p>Note, this issue only exists for street level matches. The <code>mapReference</code> information is correct for house number level matches.</p> <p>Example:</p> <p>Query:</p> <pre>searchtext=Rue Notre-Dame E, Montreal, QC H2Y 1C8, Canada&locationattributes=mapReference</pre> <p>Current result:</p> <p><code>referenceID</code>, <code>spot</code> and <code>sideOfStreet</code> information is wrong.</p> <pre>mapReference: { referenceId: "746346021", mapId: "NAAM16109", mapVersion: "Q1/2016", mapReleaseDate: "2016-05-05", spot: 1, sideOfStreet: "left", countryId: "21041602", stateId: "21055262", countyId: "21155498", cityId: "21155524" }</pre> <p>Expected result:</p> <pre>mapReference: { referenceId: "34239026", mapId: "NAAM16109", mapVersion: "Q1/2016", mapReleaseDate: "2016-05-05", spot: 0.46 (Note: This is an approximation. The spot is somewhere close to the center of the link in this case.) sideOfStreet: "right", countryId: "21041602", stateId: "21055262", countyId: "21155498", cityId: "21155524" }</pre>

Limitations and Workarounds

There are no limitations and workarounds in this release.