Geocoder API

Release Notes

Version 6.2.88

Contents

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Chapter
1

Overview

Topics:

- *D59 Highlights*

The scope of this document is to provide the release notes for the Geocoder API for a particular release version. It also includes the issues resolved and issues remaining in this release.

D59 Highlights

- India: Users can now search for addresses on unnamed streets.
- India: Users can now search for addresses within a city, district, and sub-district. The Geocoder considers all the area information. Until now, the Geocoder was only able to match either city and district or city and sub-district.
- Spain: Better support for regional languages. Spanish translations of street types for Galician speaking regions are now supported.
- Support for additional disputed areas Abu Musa Island, Tunb Islands, and Ilemi Triangle.
- Weekly map updates based on Stable Baseline. The baseline is now 2015Q3 data.
- Other enhancements and bug fixes.

Chapter

2

Release Major Changes

Topics:

- *API Changes*
- *Map Data Version*

This section documents major changes to the release that may require users to change their applications and/or associated map data.

API Changes

There are no API changes in this release.

Map Data Version

The Geocoder provides weekly map updates based on Stable Baseline. The current map base line is 2015Q3. The following exceptions exist:

- Estonia and Latvia remain at 2015Q1.
- Hong Kong remains at 2014Q2.
- China, Macau updated to 2014Q4.

Chapter

3

D59 Issues

Topics:

- *Resolved Issues*
- *Enhancements*
- *Known Issues*

This section lists resolved issues and enhancements in the current release. It also lists known issues in the current release.

Resolved Issues

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

#	Description
1	Spain: Duplicate results returned in multilingual regions
	In multilingual regions of Spain, the Geocoder returned two results with the same coordinates but in different languages. For example, one result in Catalan and the other in Spanish.
	Now the Geocoder returns a single result.
	Example:
	Query:
	`searchtext=C/ Serrano, Alicante`
	Previous Result:
	One result with the Spanish street type "Calle":
	`label: "Calle Serrano, 03003 Alicante (Alicante), España"`
	One result with the Catalan street type "Carrer":
	`label: "Carrer Serrano, 03003 Alicante (Alicante), España"`
	Current Result:
	Single result with the Spanish street type. Comunidad Valenciana has Spanish and Catalan as official languages and no regional primary language. In this case, the Geocoder responds with the the country default language.
	`label: "Calle Serrano, 03003 Alicante (Alicante), España"`
2	Wrong default response language for postal codes
	Previously, the Geocoder returned the country name for postal code matches in English. Now, the Geocoder returns it consistently in the country default language. Countries where we observed this behavior are ISL, MKD, MNE, BGR, CHE, EST, HRV, LVA, ROU, SVN.
	Example:
	Query:
	`searchtext=Tallinn 10111`
	Previous Result:
	`label: "10111, Tallinn, Estonia"`
	Current Result:
	`label: "10111, Tallinn, Eesti"`

#	Description
3	Geocoder does not return exact house number match in cases where district and street share the same name

The Geocoder prefers a house number fallback over an exact house number match. The district of the correct location has the same name as the street base name. This problem was found in multiple countries (Italy, Belgium, Germany, Switzerland, and others).

Example:

Query:

```
searchtext=Via Valleranello 65, 00128 Rome
```

Previous Result:

Match on correct street but from house number. Map data has no district information for this location.

```
label: "Via di Valleranello, 92, 00128 Roma RM, Italia"
country: ITA
state: Lazio
county: RM
city: Roma
street: Via di Valleranello
houseNumber: 92
postalCode: 00128
```

Current Result:

Match to correct street and house number. District name is the same as the street base name for this location.

```
label: "Via di Valleranello, 65, 00128 Roma RM, Italia"
country: ITA
state: Lazio
county: RM
city: Roma
district: Valleranello
street: Via di Valleranello
houseNumber: 65
postalCode: 00128
```

Enhancements

The following table contains enhancements.

#	Description
1	India: Allow search for address on unnamed street

In India, it is very common that streets have no official name. But addresses (house numbers) nevertheless exist on these streets and people search for these addresses.

Example:

Query:

```
searchtext=16/31/3, Bommanahalli, Bengaluru 560068, India
```

#	Description
	Previous Result:
	Up-hierarchy street level match. The house number is ignored.
| | ```
label: "Bommanahalli, Bengaluru 560068, India",
country: "IND",
state: "KA",
county: "Bengaluru",
city: "Bengaluru",
street: "Bommanahalli",
postalCode: "560068"
``` |
| | **Current Result:** |
| | Match to the correct house number "16/31/3" in district "Bommanahalli". |
| | ```
label: "16/31/3, Bommanahalli, Bengaluru 560068, India"
country: "IND",
state: "KA",
county: "Bengaluru",
city: "Bengaluru",
district: "Bommanahalli",
houseNumber: "16/31/3",
postalCode: "560068"
``` |
| | **More examples:** |
| | **Query:** |
| | ```
searchtext=664, Girinagar, Bengaluru 560085, India
``` |
| | **Previous Result:** |
| | Up-hierarchy district match. |
| | ```
label: "Giri Nagar, Bengaluru, KA, India"
``` |
| | **Current Result:** |
| | House number result in district. |
| | ```
label: "664, Girinagar, Bengaluru 560085, India"
``` |
| | **Query:** |
| | ```
searchtext=B-3/84, Ashok Vihar, Delhi 110052, India
``` |
| | **Previous Result:** |
| | Up-hierarchy district match. |
| | ```
label: "Ashok Vihar, Delhi, DL, India"
``` |
| | **Current Result:** |
| | House number result in district. |
| | ```
label: "B-3/84, Ashok Vihar, Delhi 110052, India"
``` |
| 2 | India: Match to house number with multiple district names |
| | Users can now search for addresses within a city, district, and sub-district. The Geocoder considers all the area information. Until now the Geocoder was only able to match either city and district or city and sub-district. |

#	Description

Example:

Query:

```
searchtext=A-11, Sector 16a, Dwarka Delhi 110078
```

Previous Result:

Match to wrong address. District name matched to street name.

```
label: "11  Dwarka  Road, Dwarka, Delhi 110078, India"
```

Current Result:

High precision address match on unnamed street in district "Dwarka".

```
label: "A-11, Dwarka, Delhi 110078, India"
```

Note: The Geocoder also matches to the sub-district "Sector 16a". But the name is not exposed in the result yet. We plan to add this sub-district name to the result with one of the next releases.

| 3 | Spain: Spanish street type translations are added for Galician streets |

The Geocoder now matches Spanish street type translations to Catalan street names. This allows users to use either the Galician or the Spanish street type in queries. The result always shows the Galician language variant, which is the default for the region.

Example:

Query:

```
searchtext=Calle Antonio Cominges 39, O Bouzo (Oia) 36390, Pontevedra
```

Previous Result:

Result in wrong street with significant penalty in the relevance score (60%) and some penalty in the street match quality (90%).

```
relevance:  0.6,
    matchLevel:  "houseNumber",
    matchQuality: {
        county:  1,
        district:  1,
        street: [
            0.9
        ],
        houseNumber:  1,
        postalCode:  1
    }
...
address: {
    label:  "Rúa do Bouzo, 39, 36390 Vigo (Pontevedra), España",
    country:  "ESP",
    state:  "Galicia",
    county:  "Pontevedra",
    city:  "Vigo",
    district:  "Oía",
    street:  "Rúa do Bouzo",
    houseNumber:  "39",
    postalCode:  "36390"
```

Current Result:

#	Description

	Correct address match. Some penalty in the relevance score because the Geocoder cannot match the district input completely ("O Bouzo (Oia)" in the query vs. "Oia" in the map data).
	
	``
	relevance: 0.85,
	    matchLevel: "houseNumber",
	    matchQuality: {
	        county: 1,
	        district: 1,
	        street: [
	            1
	        ],
	        houseNumber: 1,
	        postalCode: 1
	    }
	...
	address: {
	    label: "Rúa do Antonio Cominges, 39, 36390 Vigo (Pontevedra), España",
	    country: "ESP",
	    state: "Galicia",
	    county: "Pontevedra",
	    city: "Vigo",
	    district: "Oia",
	    street: "Rúa do Antonio Cominges",
	    houseNumber: "39",
	    postalCode: "36390"
	``
	
	Note: Also planned is the support of Spanish translations for Catalan, Basque, and Galician street **names**.
	
	Spanish street type translations for Catalan streets were added with D58 already.

4	Extended support of house number formats in France, Italy, Portugal and Spain
	
	The Geocoder can now recognize and match to house numbers with prefixes N, Nº, N°, N', Nª in the query.
	
	Example:
	
	Query:
	
	``
	searchtext=Calle de Barquillo nº10, 28004 Madrid
	``
	
	Previous Result:
	
	Street level match with reduced relevance.
	
	``
	relevance: 0.86,
	    matchLevel: "street",
	    matchQuality: {
	        city: 1,
	        street: [
	            1
	        ],
	        postalCode: 1
	    }
	...
	address:
	    label: "Calle de Barquillo, 28004 Madrid (Madrid), España",
	    country: "ESP",
	    state: "Comunidad de Madrid",
	    county: "Madrid",
	    city: "Madrid",
	    district: "Justicia",
	    street: "Calle de Barquillo",
	    postalCode: "28004"
	``
	
	Current Result:

#	Description
	Match to the correct house number. Relevance is 100%. This means the Geocoder recognized all tokens from the query input.

```
relevance:  1,
    matchLevel:   "houseNumber",
    matchQuality: {
        city:  1,
        street: [
            1
        ],
        houseNumber:  1,
        postalCode:  1
    }
...
address: {
    label:  "Calle de Barquillo, 10, 28004 Madrid (Madrid), España",
    country:  "ESP",
    state:   "Comunidad de Madrid",
    county:  "Madrid",
    city:  "Madrid",
    district:  "Justicia",
    street:  "Calle de Barquillo",
    houseNumber:  "10",
    postalCode:  "28004"
```

#	Description
5	**Default response language of alpha-numeric house numbers in countries with Cyrillic alphabet** To be more consistent in countries with Cyrillic alphabet, we changed the default response language for the alpha-part of alpha-numeric or compound house numbers: The Geocoder now returns the alpha parts of house numbers in the same alphabet as the address itself. For example, "корп 5 стр 1" instead of "KORP 5 STR 1" for a Russian address. The behavior for explicit language requests (parameter `language=...`) has not changed. Client applications continue to receive the alpha parts of house numbers in Latin script when they set the request language to something different than Cyrillic. **Example:** **Query:** searchtext=ul Krzhizhanovskogo 23 KORP 5 STR 1, Moscow **Previous Result:** label: "улица Кржижановского 23 **KORP 5 STR 1**, Москва, Россия, 117218" houseNumber: **23 KORP 5 STR 1** **Current Result:** label: "улица Кржижановского 23 **корп 5 стр 1**, Москва, Россия, 117218" houseNumber: **23 корп 5 стр 1**
6	**Matching to neighboring (near-by) districts in Mexico** For address search in Mexico, people widely use suburbs (portions of a city – districts, neighborhoods). The Geocoder supports this use case in general. But it may happen that the border between two districts is not very clear and people refer to a district that is near-by. The Geocoder now considers the name of near-by districts as a relevant part of the address search in Mexico. The Geocoder is now able to find an address even if the near-by district is the only locality information in the request. The Geocoder still includes the actual district name in the response.

#	Description
	Example:
	Query:
	`searchtext=Bosque de Tejocotes 85, Bosques de las Lomas, Cuajimalpa`
	Previous Result:
	Match to the wrong address in the wrong street with D58. Before D58, the result was empty.
	`label: "Bosque de Tuyas 5, Bosques de las Lomas, 05120 Cuajimalpa de Morelos, DF, México"`
	Current Result:
	`label: "Bosque de Tejocotes 85, Fracc Cumbres Reforma, 05128 Cuajimalpa de Morelos, DF, México"`
	The map below shows the expected result (D1) in district "Fracc Cumbres Reforma". The query references the name of the near-by district "Bosques de las Lomas".
7	Disputed areas: The Geocoder now returns different country names for Northern Cyrus as well as for Southern Cyprus for international and TUR views (`politicalview=TUR`).
	For a Turkish user (TUR view) the country names are as follows
	• For Northern Cyprus the country name is Kuzey Kibris Turk Cumhuriyeti (Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus)
	• For Southern Cyprus the country name is Guney Kibris Rum Yonetimi (Greek Cypriot Admin of South Cyprus)

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 are not able to be geocoded - Q2 2013 TWN Map improvements
	Islands to be considered as part of Taiwan.
2	Taiwan - Street Fallback - Returning the Best Candidate
	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.
	Example:
	彰化縣彰化市介壽北路1號
	House number 1 is not in the map data. The result is therefore a fallback to house number 19:
	No. 19, Jie Shou N. Rd., Changhua City, Changhua County 500, Taiwan
	But if a house number fallback is not accepted (parameter: additionaldata=HouseNumberMode,Streetlevel), then the result is expected to be a street level match:
	Jie Shou N. Rd., Changhua City, Changhua County 500, Taiwan
	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:
	No. 1, Lane 36, Jie Shou S. Rd., Changhua City, Changhua County 500, Taiwan
3	China: Reverse Geocoder `retrieveAreas` response not aligned with `mode=retrieveAddresses`
	The Reverse Geocoder `retrieveAreas` response is not aligned with the response from `retrieveAddresses` and Forward Geocoder. City and district names are only available in Chinese, the county information is incorrect and state is empty (should be Chinese provinces).
4	Labels for highway exits do not include the exit number
	The label only contains the highway name.
	Workaround: Use highway name and exit number from the `name` field.
5	The navigation coordinate in the response for Hong Kong building name matches is not always correct. It is the same as the display coordinate. Only when the query matches a house number in addition to the building name (`MatchQuality` element `houseNumber` exists in the result), the navigation coordinate is correct.
	Example:
	The queries
	Shek Wu Shui Baptist Chapel, Hong Kong
	and
	Shek Wu Shui Baptist Chapel, 33 Fu Hing St, Hong Kong
	both match to the same address. But the navigation coordinate is correct for the latter query only.
6	The Geocoder expects the wrong 3-letter code to set the `politicalview` for Greece. The Geocoder expects "GRE", which is the 3-letter language code, instead of "GRC", which is the 3-letter country code.

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Chapter
4

Disputed Borders

Information about the support of disputed borders is now available in the appendix of the Geocoder Developer's Guide. It shows how to use political views and lists the currently supported disputes.