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EZ-Locate Introduction

Getting ready to geocode

Introduction

Geocoding with EZ-Locate is a simple process, but users must perform a few key steps before they can begin. This document will help new customers complete their first geocoding job.

The major steps in the setup process are:

- Setting up an EZ-Locate account.
- Downloading EZ-Locate client software to the machine you will use to transmit data to the EZ-Locate server.
- Choosing the EZ-Locate service that fits your needs.
- Following the “Getting Started” instructions that come with the client software to help you run your first job.

Setting up an EZ-Locate Account

EZ-Locate requires that all users have an account before they can begin. The accounting system for EZ-Locate is a debit system. Customers pre-pay for a number of records and the system debits accounts as they are used. The price per record decreases as the quantity purchased increases. This allows customers to use credits to run jobs of any size while obtaining the best price for the total service they need. Accounts can be used until all geocodes have been used or 1 year has passed since the last purchase.

Using the "Trial Account" link on the front page of <http://www.geocode.com> you can sign up for a free account containing credit for 100 geocodes. If you are happy with your trial or wish to sign up for a larger number of records from the start, use the "Subscribe" link from <http://www.geocode.com>.

If at any point you need more records for your account, the "Subscribe" link will allow you to add records to an existing regular or trial account.

Downloading EZ-Locate client software

The EZ-Locate client is the tool you use to send your addresses to the Tele Atlas EZ-Locate server for geocoding. Users who simply want to geocode their file of addresses should download the EZ-Locate Client version 2.xx. The EZ-Locate version 2.xx client software can be found by following the "Download Area" link on the front page of <http://www.geocode.com>.

When you download the software you will be able to choose between

- An installer that has only the client software and needs a version 1.4 or newer Java runtime pre-installed on your computer
- An installer that installs the client and a private java runtime for the exclusive use of the client application.

Tele Atlas recommends that you install the version with a bundled JRE. This pair of client and JRE has been tested for compatibility. The java runtime installed is private - installing it will not affect the version of java used by the rest of your system.

If you choose to install the client only, the installer will ask you to locate the 1.4 or newer java runtime that is already installed on your machine. The installer will configure the EZ-Locate client to use the JRE that you identify.

Selecting an EZ-Locate service to use

The EZ-Locate servers support a range of geocoding services. Each service varies in the output fields that it returns for each geocode. Tele Atlas offers description documents for each service specifying the service inputs and outputs with detailed documentation of the fields. The EZ-Locate installer places the service description documents in the "service description" subdirectory of the EZ-Locate client's program directory. By reviewing the service description documents, you can decide which service best suits your needs.

Our newest services are USA_Geo_001 with geocoding support for the USA and Can_Geo_001 with geocoding support for Canada.

The important pieces of information you will need to have on hand when it is time to access your service are the name of the server hosting the service and the exact name of the service. These are clear in the service description document for each service. With service contact information and a copy of the client application installed, you are ready to run a job.

Follow the supplied walk-through for your first job

The EZ-Locate client installer provides a document that will walk you through the details of your first geocoding job. The document is titled "Getting Started.txt" and is placed in the installation directory you selected for the EZ-Locate client application.