Address-Validator Usage

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General Usage

Address Input Fields

```
CountryCode              two-letter ISO 3166-1 country code
(string),
                         'XX' for international
StreetAddress            street name (string),
                         may include housenumber and building name
                         may include building/unit/apartment
StreetNumber             housenumber or building name (string)
AdditionalAddressInfo    building/unit/apt etc. (string)
City                     city or locality (city,district) (string)
PostalCode               postal code (string)
State                    postal ward (state, county or province)
(string)
OutputCharset            output character set [us-ascii|utf-8]
                         default: 'utf-8' (string)
Locale                   output language [IETF language tag]
                         default: postal default for address.
                         supported in some countries only
```

Always use "," to separate address elements were required.

StreetAddress may also contain a complete address (unstructured query). In this case, all optional fields should be empty. With this usage, validator diagnostics are fewer, and some input can't be disambiguated.

Leave the PostalCode and State fields empty, if they are not in use in the target country.

In China/Japan/Korea, use big-to small order for all fields when using native script, or small-to-big order for all fields when using Latin script.

In India, use small-to-big order for the street address input field, and leave AdditionalAddressInfo empty.

Never submit a recipient name, as this will confuse the search. Recipient names properly marked by a "c/o" designation are automatically detected by the validator, and placed in the supplement output field.

Address Output Fields

Some output fields *must* be included in an address label (formattedaddress), some output fields are informational only and *should not* appear in an address label. When in doubt, use the address label provided.

```
formattedaddress  address label, ',' suggests line breaks
street            street
streetnumber      house number
supplement        building/subbuilding/unit/...
                  (not relevant in some countries)
postalcode        postal code
city              locality (and all sublocalities if relevant)
country           ISO2 country code
state             state, county or province only if relevant

informational output fields:
district          any sublocality information if not relevant
county            state, county or province if not relevant
type              S = street address, P = special delivery
rdi               R = residential, C = commercial (if known)
corrections       any corrections applied to the input fields
diagnostics       errors found in the input fields
```

Building the Address Label from the FormattedAddress Output

A comma character ',' in an output field indicates the start of a separate element, but only if the comma is **not** followed by a blank. Example Output:

```
formattedaddress = "42, Rue de Soleil,L-4321 Luxembourg"
```

Resulting Address Label Lines:

```
42, Rue de Soleil
L-4321 Luxembourg
```

Country-Specific Usage

Austria (AT)

Austrian addresses usually consist of two lines, though sometimes apartment information can be placed in a separate line. Apartment information is usually only used in urban areas, sometimes fully defining the recipient without the need for giving the recipient's name.

Street Address

The street address consists of the street name followed by the house number. Additional information regarding a particular apartment usually follows immediately afterwards, separated by a '/' slash character. The apartment info is usually given as one or two additional numbers, denoting the sub building (door/stair), and the apartment number.

In Austria, house number ranges and/or letters are also very common. Zero is an acceptable house number.

House Number Examples: 9, 9B, 9-13, 0a

House Number with Apartment Examples: 35b/2/18, 18/Stg. 2, 18/Haus 2, 18/609-611

Beware of numbered streets: Guntersdorf Kellergasse 1, Guntersdorf Kellergasse 1A. These are two different streets, and need to be followed by a housenumber to complete the street address line.

Street names can also contain the ',' character, in this case it is followed by a single blank (' ').

In general, street names should be unique within a locality, but this is not handled consistently in Austria. To disambiguate, the locality name is often overridden with the village name (recommended), or it is added in an additonal line preceding the locality line. Sometimes the village name is prepended to street name, either not separated at all, or separated by ",", or in parentheses after the street name. An infamous example is "Guntersdorf Kellergasse 1A" (see above) vs. "Großnondorf Kellergasse 1A".

In urban areas, you will not run into this problem.

Locality Line

The locality line starts with a 4-digit postal code, followed by the locality or village name.

Remarks

Validation coverage of address-validator is down to housenumber/building level. In Austria we are also able to provide the information if an address is residential or commercial in the rdi output field. For mixed use addresses, or whenever the information is unknown, this result field remains empty.

Vowels with diacritics such as 'ä' should be spelled accordingly. The letter 'ß' also appears frequently. Please use the UTF-8 character set.

P.O. Box numbers are preceded by "Postfach".

Examples

```
Postfach 100    (PO box address)
1011 Wien       (locality line)

Karlsplatz 8    (street address)
1040 Wien       (locality line)
```

Australia (AU)

The preferred script for addresses in Australian and its Overseas Territories is all caps with no diacritics. You can still use lower case characters and diacritics when submitting your search. An address label as returned by the address validator API in the formattedaddress field typically consists of two or three lines. You can split the label into lines at the ',' character as it is never in use within a line itself.

Street Address

The street address starts with the house number followed by the street name. Any additional lines (apartment number and/or building name) are added on top before the street address. The house number 0 is uncommon, but acceptable, as are house number ranges (like 2-4). House numbers may have capital letters as prefix or suffix. This may result in ambiguity if the street name starts with a single letter as well, so be sure to leave no blank between the house number suffix and the number when validating an address.

Locality Line

The Locality Line consists of the locality name, the state abbreviation (2 or 3 characters), and a 4-digit numeric postal code.

Remarks

Address-validator coverage for Australia is down to apartment level. Validation also covers overseas territories.

Be sure to spell out apartment numbers etc. completely to avoid any ambiguity: "LEVEL 4,UNIT 1". Be aware of common ambiguities which may cause apartment

specification match failures, like "4TH FLOOR" vs. "LEVEL 4".

Examples

```
TOURISM HOUSE          (building name)
40 BLACKALL ST         (street address)
BARTON ACT 2600        (locality line)

UNIT 555               (apartment)
16B RYDE RD            (street address)
WEST PYMBLE NSW 2073   (locality line)
```

Belgium (BE)

Address labels returned by the address validator API for Belgium typically consist of two lines. You can split the label (formattedaddress) into lines at the ',' character, the ',' character is not in use within a line itself.

Street Address

The street address starts with street followed by the house number.

Apartment numbers are separated using either the keyword "bte" or "bus", for example "Lange Zandstraat 105 bus 3". If the apartment number is placed in a separate line, this line should precede the street address.

Locality Line

The locality line contains a 4-digit postal code (with the optional addition of "B-") as well as the postal city.

Remarks

Address-validator coverage for Belgium is down to house number/building level. An apartment number is not needed for addressing in Belgium, the recipient name suffices.

Vowels with diacritics such as 'é' should be used exactly as required. Using the UTF-8 character set is recommended.

Some street names contain ",", beware when splitting the label into lines

Belgium is a multilingual country. Keep in mind that address information should always continuously be composed in the same language (either Dutch, German or French).

Examples

```
(Dutch)
Spielveldstraat 5
B-9160 Lokeren
```

```
(French)
Rue des Rogations 7
5630 Cerfontaine

(German)
Birkenweg 35
4750 Bütgenbach
```

Brazil (BR)

Typical addresses in Brazil typically consist of four lines: the street address, the city borough, the city and the postal code.

Street Address

The street name is placed before the house number. The housenumber is commonly separated using ",". Number prefixes such as "no." are removed by address-validator. Aparment information also goes into this line, separated by ",".

city borough

This is the name of the city borough. Sometimes these names are rather functional, like "Centro".

locality line

The city name and the state code, separated by a dash.

postal code (CEP)

Postal code in Brazil have 8 digits, grouped in blocks of 5 and 3 digits, separated by a dash.

Remarks

Address-validator coverage for Brazil is down to house number/building level. An apartment number is not needed for addressing in Brazil, the recipient name suffices.

Vowels with diacritics such as 'ã' should be entered exactly as required. Using the UTF-8 character set is recommended.

To input the city and district names, place them in the city input field in big-to-small order, separated by a single comma character, for example "Itatiaia,Centro".

The state code should go to the state input field. Use the official abbreviations: "SP" instead of "São Paulo" etc.

The street address line may contain ",", beware when splitting the label into lines.

Examples

```
Av. Exemplo, 1   (street address)
```

```
Centro            (borough)
Itatiaia - RJ     (city - state code)
27580-000         (postal code)
```

Switzerland (CH)

Switzerland and Liechtenstein share the same postal services and the same postal code space. Address labels returned by the address validator API typically consist of two lines. You can split the label (formattedaddress) into lines at the ',' character, the ',' character is not in use within a line itself.

Street Address

The street address starts with street followed by the house number. In difference to other German-speaking countries, Switzerland prefers the spelling "Strasse" over "Straße".

Sometimes the house number is followed by an apartment number separated by a slash '/' character, though this is rare, as the recipient name suffices for delivery of mail items.

Locality Line

The 4-digit postal code is followed by the name of the city, town or village addressed. If the name is not unique, a 2-letter abbreviation for the containing canton's name needs to be added after the city's name (see examples). The canton designator is part of the locality name returned in the city field. Likewise, an additional number is sometimes appended to the locality name for P.O. Box addresses.

Remarks

We are also able to provide the information if an address is residential or commercial in the rdi output field. For mixed use addresses, or whenever the information is unknown, this result field remains empty.

Self-service collection stations and Pickup-Services are addressed by adding the key word MyPost24/PickPost (without blanks) followed by a user ID in the address supplement. Other than that, they look like street addresses, but address-validator flags them as type 'P' (special delivery). Address-validator verifies these addresses, but does not check if the user ID is correct.

P.O. Box addresses are addressed using "Postfach", "Case Postale", or "Casella Postale". In many cases a P.O. Box number is not supplied, the recipient name is sufficient for addressing. Any P.O. Box number, if supplied, is not checked by the address-validator. Swisspost recommends not to supply the walk-in street address on the address label when a P.O.Box is already specified. P.O. Boxes are flagged as type 'P' (special delivery).

Switzerland is a multilingual country. All input fields should be supplied in the same language. For addresses in the city of Biel/Bienne two representations exist (German and French). Vowels with diacritics or accents (such as 'ü' or 'è') should be spelled accordingly, using the UTF-8 character set.

Address-Validator Coverage

- street address down to house number/building level (CH and LI)
- Swisspost services (CH only): Postlagernd/Poste Restante/Fermoposta, MyPost24, PickPost, Postfach/Case Postale/Casella Postale

Examples

```
Avenue Edmond-Vaucher 18  (street address)
1203 Genève               (locality line)

MyPost24 PT123456         (My Post 24 supplement)
MP Perron 3               (street address, name of the My Post 24
station)
9200 Gossau SG            (locality line, disambiguated vs. Gossau
ZH)

Casella Postale           (street address, in this case a P.O.Box
specification)
6501 Bellinzona           (locality line)
```

Czech Republic (CZ)

In the Czech Republic, the recipient's last name is required to identify a recipient, and an apartment number **MUST NOT** be supplied. Many houses have two numbers (see below), adding an apartment number will only confuse the search algorithm.

If an address requires the district name to be supplied (see below, rare), add it to the city input, separated by a ',' character.

An address label returned by the address validator API for the Czech Republic typically consists of two lines, sometimes three. A village or district line is required if the street address is not unique for a postal district. In this (rare) case, the district name is added to the city field returned, separated by a single ','. You can split the label (formattedaddress) into lines at the ',' character, the "," character is not in use within a line itself.

Street Address

The street address consists of the street name followed by a pair of house numbers.

- Czech House Numbers Czech addresses are unique in a way, because many houses have two numbers, the first one usually unique to the locality or district

(red plate), the second number unique within a street (blue plate). Usage varies, but usually the registration number is given first (old houses having smaller numbers), followed by the house number unique to the street (representing the building). The two numbers are separated by a slash '/'. Sometimes the registration number is omitted, and sometimes houses only have a registration number, and no orientation number. In rare cases, either of the numbers are not unique, and two houses in the same postal district have the same street address. An additional address line is required to disambiguate (see examples).

- Small Villages Small villages often do not use street names, and the village name is used instead. An address in Bukovice, which in itself is part of Písařov, in the postal district of Štíty, might look like this: "Bukovice 999,789 91 Štíty".

Locality Line

The 5-digit postal code (grouped in two blocks of three and two digits) is essential, and followed by the locality name, which is often different from the village name. In cities, Česká pošta recommends adding the number of the postal office, so the postal address is different from the walk-in address. Prague districts may have more than one postal office, so to confuse matters further, in Prague the postal district number can be different from the city district number. For example an address in "108 00 Praha 108" (postal), is likely to be located in "Praha 10" (walk-in).

Address validator only uses the postal data to build the label. If different from the postal locality name, the walk-in name of the locality is provided in the district field.

Note that the postal code space is shared with the Slovak Republic (SK)

Remarks

Validation coverage of address-validator is down to house number/building level.

The Czech alphabet has 42 characters. While charset=us-ascii is supported for searches, its use is not recommended, as too much valuable information gets lost in the ASCII transliteration. Results can be widely off, and in this day and age there is no reason to use any encoding other than UTF-8. In the Czech Republic Windows-1250 was also widely used, which converts nicely to UTF-8. Please contact us if you need support with the conversion.

Both the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic still share the same postal code space. With the dissolution of Czechoslovakia (Československo) in 1993 now long past, we still see people searching for Slovakia addresses in Czechia. Use the correct country code (SK) to search for Slovakia addresses.

Examples

```
Václavské náměstí 1700/68 (street address)
110 00 Praha 1            (locality line)


Bukovice 999              (street address, village name used as
street name)
789 91 Štíty              (locality line)

Na Pískách 111            (street address)
Zábřeh                    (village or district for disambiguation)
747 22 Dolní Benešov      (locality line)
```

Germany (DE)

German building addresses have two or three lines.

District ("Ortsteil")

Following Deutsche Post addressing guidelines, this line appears in rare cases only, and only if the address would not be unique with the other two lines alone. It must be placed after the recipient's name, before the street address. Sometimes, the district name can be the same as the city name.

As always, all postally relevant location information is placed in the city output field, and the district output field is informational only. If needed, address-validator will append the district to the city output field, and the district output field will remain empty.

With structured input, append the district to the city name, separated by a single comma ',' character to disambiguate.

Only add the district to your input if the address requires it.

Street Address

The street address consists of the street name followed by the house numbers. Additional information regarding a particular apartment should not be mentioned at all, because the recipient's name always suffices.

If the street name ends in "Straße", it is usually abbreviated to "Str.".

Sometimes a housenumber may have a continuation, such as a letter or an additional building number (separated "/"). House number ranges can be given using a dash ('-') character.

Multiple numbers may appear if the city of Mannheim is involved (Quadratestadt). The city center is organized in squares. Each square has a letter and a number.

House Number Examples: 9, 9a, 9/1, 9-13

Locality Line

The locality line starts with a 5-digit postal code, followed by the locality.

Remarks

Validation coverage of address-validator is down to house number/building level. Submitting an apartment specification is considered an error.

Vowels with diacritics such as 'ä' should be spelled accordingly. The letter 'ß' also appears frequently. Please use the UTF-8 character set.

Self-service collection stations are called "Packstation". Address-validator returns the type code 'P' for this kind of address.

Examples

```
Friedrich-Ebert-Straße 9a (street address)
79177 Freiburg           (locality line)


B 7 14-15                (street address)
68159 Mannheim           (locality line)


Packstation 333          (street address)
51149 Köln               (locality line)


Carolinensiel            (district)
Bahnhofstraße 6          (street address)
26409 Wittmund           (locality line)
```

Denmark (DK)

Danish addresses come in two-line and three-line variants.

Street Address

The recipient's name is followed by a separate line for the street and house number and possibly some additional information to define the apartment.

Locality Line(s)

The locality line contains a 4-digit postal code (with the optional addition of "DK-") as well as the postal locailty name. Look out for the small differences: "København V" and "København N" are not the same.

In a small village, a sublocality needs to be added as well (see example below)

Remarks

Validation coverage of address-validator is down to house number/building level. The Danish language has special characters (such as 'ø', 'å') that should be written

exactly as supplied, using the UTF-8 character set.

The Faroe Islands are part of Denmark and can be validated (see Faroe Islands (FO)). Faroe Islands postal codes are 3 digits only.

Examples

```
Tørvevej 66   (street address)
Hulsig        (sublocality)
9990 Skagen   (locality line)
```

Estonia (EE)

Addresses in Estonia are typically two or three lines. There is no official definition (yet), when to use which format, so we can only follow general UPU guidelines.

Street Address

An apartment number, if present, is a suffix to the house number, and separated by a single dash sign '-'. Both house numbers and apartment numbers may have continuations (like a letter, or another number separated by a slash '/'). The possible combinations are endless, and you should submit the numbers exactly as given by the recipient. Examples: 122b, 5-2, 12/1-5/1, 1-14a, 15//17

A street address may also consist of a building name only, in this case there is no house number.

Locality Line(s)

In cities (like Tallinn, Kohtla-Järve, Pärnu linn), there is only one locality line, whereas in rural areas, two locality lines are needed (see examples).

The postal locality is defined by the postal code (a 5-digit number) and three additional elements, but not all of them are used in the address label. These are:

- state (maakond)
- locality or county/parish
- sublocality or village

This data is placed in the state and city output fields of the validator, while the district and county fields in the validator output remain empty. Examples:

```
city: Tallinn,Põhja-Tallinna linnaosa
state: Harju maakond

city: Järva vald,Järva-Jaani
state: Järva maakond
```

Remarks

Address-validation in Estonia covers apartment (subbuilding) level, which means that accuracy is all the more important when you submit the house number/apartment

number.

Locality information should be submitted in the same way as in the formatted address output. If an additional locality line is required (rural address), append the village name to the county name in the city input field, separated by a single ',' character.

Omniva/UPU also recommends using county abbreviations (like Harjumaa instead of Harju maakond). The address-validator output never uses these abbreviations.

Beware of special characters in the Estonian alphabet (such as õ, š, ž)! Please use the UTF-8 character set.

Examples

```
Jussi talu               (building name)
Halliste alev.           (village)
69501 Viljandi maakond   (postal code and state)

Vene 17                  (street and house number)
10123 Tallinn            (postal code and city)
```

Spain (ES)

Typical Spanish addresses consist of two lines, the street address and the locality line.

Street Address

The street name is placed before the house number. The housenumber is commonly separated using ",", though this usage is no longer encouraged by the Spanish post. Address-validator removes any ',' before the housenumber, also prefixes such as "no." are removed. Apartment information may follow separated by a dash character '-', or in a new line. Apartment information can be the letter box number (buzon), the floor number (piso) and/or the door number (puerta). In general, it is a good idea to disambiguate input by supplying the apartment information in the supplement input field.

Locality Line

The locality line is the 5-digit postal code, followed by the locality name, followed by the province name in parentheses. The province name is omitted if it is the same as the locality. Sometimes one- or two-letter abbreviations are used for the province name, though these are not always intuitive, for example "Las Palmas" is abbreviated as "GC".

Postal codes may start with a zero digit.

Remarks

Address validation down to house number/building level is supported, any apartment information is not validated.

In a P.O. Box address, the steet address is replaced by "Apartado" and a number.

Vowels with diacritics such as 'ó' should be spelled accordingly. Please use the UTF-8 character set.

Spain is a multiligual country, with a surprising number of languages in use: Asturian, Basque, Castilian (Spanish), Catalan, Galician, Valencian (this list may not be complete). Accordingly, streets and places are spelled differently (Alicante/Alacant, Avenida/Avinguda, Calle/Carrer). Be careful not to mix different languages when submitting an address for validation, and always use the appropriate local dialect to ensure best results.

Examples

```
Avenida Príncipe de Asturias 999
Escalera 3 Pta. 14
28670 Villaviciosa de Odón (Madrid)

Carrer Girona 999 - 1º A
03001 Alacant
```

Finland (FI)

A Finnish postal address consists of two lines. Apartment information is not required, the recipient name is sufficient for delivery.

Street Address

In the street address line, the street name is placed before the house number. In common usage, any apartment number may follow the house number without separators. To disambiguate, use the supplement input field.

```
bad:  streetaddress: Esimerkkitie 31 b 2
good: streetaddress: Esimerkkitie 31, supplement: b 2
good: streetaddress: Esimerkkitie 31b, supplement: 2
```

Locality Line

The locality line is usually printed in capital ascii letters, however, you can still use lower case characters and diacritics when submitting your search.

The 5-digit postal code usually ends with either 0 or, in rare cases, 5. An addition of "FI-" in front of the postal code is optional.

Remarks

Address validation of house number/building level is possible, apartment numbers are not validated. This also applies to Åland Islands (AX).

Vowels with diacritics such as 'ä' should be spelled accordingly. Please use the UTF-8 character set.

Don't mix post box address and walk-in address:

```
bad: PL 53,Fabianinkatu 32,00014 HELSINGIN YLIOPISTO
good: PL 53,00014 HELSINGIN YLIOPISTO
good: Fabianinkatu 32,00100 HELSINKI
```

Finland is a bilingual country. Be careful not to mix Finnish and Swedish input when submitting an address for validation:

```
bad: Exempelvägen 31,FI-68600 PIETARSAARI
good: Exempelvägen 31,FI-68600 JAKOBSTAD
good: Esimerkkitie 31,FI-68600 PIETARSAARI
```

Sometimes, so-called "Pakettiautomaatti", (=self-service collection stations) are used. In this case, the number of the Pakettiautomaatti must be supplied for validation.

Examples

```
Fabianinkatu 32
FI-00100 HELSINKI
```

Faroe Islands (FO)

Adresses are written in a two-line format.

Street Address

The recipient's name is followed by a separate line for the street and house number.

Locality Line

The locality line contains a 3-digit postal code followed by the locality name.

Remarks

Address validation coverage is house number/building level.

Vowels with diacritics such as 'ó' should be spelled accordingly. Please use the UTF-8 character set.

Examples

```
Sjógøta 40      (street address)
970 Sumba       (locality line)
```

France (FR)

In France and its overseas territories, all caps with no diacritics is the preferred way to write postal addresses. You can still use lower case characters and diacritics when submitting your search.

An address label as returned by the address validator API typically consists of two or three lines. You can split the label into lines at the ',' character as it is not in use within a line itself.

Street Address

The street address starts with the house number followed by the street name.

Any additional lines (apartment number) are added on top before the street address. They are usually not needed, as the name of the recipient is sufficient.

Locality Line(s)

The 5-digit postal code is essential, and followed by the locality name. It usually ends with the digit 0.

Sometimes, the name of the village or district is required in an additional line placed before the locality line.

Remarks

Validation of house number/building level is possible. Validation also covers overseas territories like Réunion (RE).

La Poste S.A. prefers capitalized ASCII characters in postal addresses, hence the use of the ASCII character set ist safe when searching for an address in address-validator.

Lieux-Dits

Some rural hamlets do not use a street/house number system. In this case, place names are used ("lieu-dit"="small locality").

These names often serve well in addresses for postal deliveries, but other services may fail, as delivery drivers do not have the same knowledge as the local post representative.

Lieux-dit names can be validated with address-validator, and are classified like any other street address with the type code ("S"). You can still detect them reliably by checking if the result house number field is empty. If a validation returns VALID, only lieux-dits have an empty house number field.

Beware when submitting place names starting with the word "chez". This word is also used as a synonym to the internationally recognized postal abbreviation c/o (care of).

Examples

```
3 RUE LAMARTINE    (street address)
72100 LE MANS      (locality line)

LIEU-DIT HAMEAU DES KANGOUROUX  (lieu-dit)
PASSIN                          (village name)
01260 CHAMPAGNE EN VALROMEY     (locality line)
```

United Kingdom (GB)

Adresses in the United Kingdom are written in small-to-big order, followed by the postal code. The following elements are usually present, but sometimes not, as addresses may have neither streets nor house numbers.

Building and Subbuilding Specification

Many buildings in the United Kingdom are named. The subbuilding specification precedes the building name. Subbuilding information (such as flat numbers) should be omitted in the input, as this information is rarely standardized and searchable. Be sure to enter the building name, especially if the building is not numbered.

Street Address

If the house is numbered, the house number precedes the street name. The house number 0 is allowable.

City

The locality may have multiple components. Start with the smallest component. Components are separated by a ',' character.

Postal Code

The mandatory postal code is the last address element.

Remarks

Validation is supported down to house number/building level.

Guernsey (ISO2 country code GG), Isle of Man (IM), Jersey (JE) and some British overseas territories follow the same addressing rules.

Examples

```
9 Bywater Street              (street address)
London                        (locality)
SW3 4XD                       (postal code)

Nantwich Cheese               (building)
Waymills Industrial Estate    (street)
Waymills,Whitchurch           (locality)
SY13 1TT                      (postal code)
```

```
Frances House              (building)
Sir William Place          (street)
St. Peter Port,Guernsey    (locality)
GY1 1GX                    (postal code)
```

Croatia (HR)

Building addresses in Croatia have two to four lines: the street address, the locality line, a sublocality (if required) and optionally an apartment or subbuilding specification. The lines are ordered as follows:

```
sublocality (if required)
street housenumber
apartment (optional)
postalcode locality
```

In small villages, the sublocality replaces the street name.

Sublocality

With structured input, append the sublocality to the city name, separated by a single comma ',' character to disambiguate.

Only add the sublocality to your input if the address requires it.

Street Address

The street name is followed by the house number. A house number itself can be followed by a letter or by another number.

Locality Line

The locality line consists of 2 elements: the 5-digit postal code and the city name.

Remarks

Validation is supported down to house number level. Some regions are multi-lingual (Croatian/Italian), but address validator only supports the Croatian language addresses. Please use the UTF-8 character set to support the complete Croatian alphabet.

Examples

```
Braće Radića 4             (street address)
31216 Antunovac            (locality line)

Brkač                      (sublocality)
Bataji 20A                 (street address)
52424 Motovun              (locality line)
```

Iceland (IS)

Buildings in Iceland are addressed by two lines: the street address and the locality line.

Street Address

The street name is followed by the house number. A house number itself can be followed by a letter and/or a suffix. Housenumber ranges are denoted using the dash '-' character.

Street names are sometimes given in the nominative, and sometimes declensed, for example, "Tryggvagata" might be declensed to "Tryggvagötu", or "Kalkofnsvegur" to "Kalkofnsvegi". Address-validator always returns the street name in the nominative.

Locality Line

Generally, a 3-digit postal code is followed by the locality.

Remarks

Validation is supported down to house number/building level.

Icelandic has many interesting letters. For best results, use the UTF-8 character set for validation.

Examples

```
Kalkofnsvegi 1          (street address)
101 Reykjavík           (locality line)
```

Italy (IT)

Building addresses in Italy usually have two lines: the street address and the locality line. In addition, an apartment or subbuilding specification can be added in another line before the street address line. Poste Italiane prefers the address to be printed in all capital letters, but this is no longer absolutely required. Address-Validator only capitalizes the initial letter of words and names.

Street Address

The street name is followed by the house number. A house number itself can be followed by a letter. In common usage, the letter may be separated using a '/' slash character. Housenumber ranges are denoted using the dash '-' character. Street names sometimes contain a number, as in "Via 28 Luglio". In this case, the street name is often disambiguated from the house number by using roman numerals in the street name: "Via XXVIII Luglio".

Locality Line

The locality line consists of 3 elements: the 5-digit postal code, the city name, and the postal region abbreviation (two capital letters). Postal codes may start with

leading zeroes.

Remarks

Validation is supported down to house number level. San Marino (ISO2 country code SM) and Holy See/Vatican City (ISO2 country code VA) share the same postal code space as Italy, but the postal region abbreviation must be left empty.

Examples

```
VIA BALBI 10                        (street address)
16126 GENOVA GE                     (locality line)
```

Liechtenstein (LI)

- see Switzerland (CH)

Lithuania (LT)

The building address is two or three lines, depending on the locality (see examples). This is similar to addresses in Estonia. The general format looks like this:

```
administrative capital:
strt hnum - supp
LT-ppppp locality

other localities:
strt hnum - supp
locality
LT-ppppp province

localities without street name:
locality hnum - supp
locality
LT-ppppp province
```

Lithuania is one of the few countries where parts of the address are declensed. The rules are not easily understood by foreigners. The good news: only 3 of the 10 possible cases are used in postal addresses:

- The addressee's name can be either nominative or dative, depending on whether it is used as the recipient address (dative) or as the sender address (nominative). If the addressee is a business or institution, it is always given in nominative, regardless.

- If the addressee's village does not have streets, the village name and the post office name are provided. The names are usually declensed to the genitive: Galinių kaimas Dubingių pšt. which translates (roughly) to: Village of Galinių, Post Office of Dubingių.

- The locality line always uses nominative.

Street Address

The street name is followed by the house number.

House numbers are formed as follows - Digits can optionally be followed by a letter.

- No continuations are allowed (number ranges or multiple house numbers).

- Some house numbers are followed by a subbuilding number. The subbuilding number is preceded by the letter K, even if the house number is already followed by a letter. Do not enter blanks or any other character between these parts of the house number.

- Examples: without subbuilding number: 48, 48C, 48K with subbuilding number 3: 48K3, 48CK3, 48KK3

An apartment number (="door"), if present, is added after the house number, and separated by a single dash sign '-'.

Locality Line(s)

Generally, a 5-digit postal code is followed by the locality, but in some cases, similar to Estonia, an address can have more lines, depending on the locality and whether it is a bigger city or more rural area (see examples).

Remarks

Validation is supported down to house number/building level, including subbuildings, but not down to apartment level.

Lithuanian has a few letters with diacritical marks (like ę, ė, į, š). Please use the UTF-8 character set.

Examples

```
Tilto g. 35A            (street address)
01101 Vilnius           (locality line)

Alksno g. 2             (street address)
Vajasiškis              (village name)
32405 Zarasų r. sav.    (locality line)
```

Luxembourg (LU)

Luxembourg addresses usally consist of two lines. Recipients are identified by name, and not by apartment number.

Street Address

The street address consists of the house number and the street name. The house

number is preferably separated by a comma character.

If the letter "A" is part of the house number, it must follow the number without blank. Some street names start with the single letter "A" in the street name, so this can avoid confusion.

Alternatively, the line can contain a PO box and number.

In small villages without street names, use "Maison" (=house) instead.

Never submit apartment numbers! If the numbering is a bit more complicated, like "6/3", it usually suffices to put down the first number (in this case just "6") followed by the street name.

Locality Line

The 4-digit postal code, optionally with the addition "L-" at the front, is followed by the locality. The name is usually capitalised (see below).

Remarks

Validation coverage is house number/building level.

Luxembourg is the name of the country as well as the capital.

Luxembourg is a multilingual country, so keep addresses consistent and don't mix languages.

Vowels with diacritics such as 'é' should be spelled accordingly, using the UTF-8 character set.

Examples

```
42, Rue de Soleil
L-4321 Luxembourg
```

Latvia (LV)

Latvian addresses include at least three lines.

Street Address

The house number follows the street name. Housenumbers can be combined; usually the '/' character is used, as in "11/11A" or "33/35". Some house numbers are followed by a subbuilding number. The subbuilding number is preceded by "k-", like in this example: "33 k-15".

In some small villages, the streets are not named, and the street name will be empty. Also, buildings may have names, in this case the building name is always placed in the house number output field. If the building is unnamed, the house number is used, prefixed by the village name. The village name might be declensed.

In rare cases, the street address can be a road mileage (given in kilometers): "dzīvojamā māja 10. km"

Apartment numbers are separated using the keyword "dz.". They are separated from the house number using the character ",", for example "Cēsu iela 5, dz. 3".

Locality Lines

In Latvia, the locality is named first and the 5-digit postal code with the optional "LV-" is added in a separate line. In small towns or villages, the parish and county names are added to the locality. If there is no village name, only parish and county are used.

Remarks

Validation covers the house number/building level, including subbuildings, but not down to apartment level.

The address validator returns all components of the locality name (village/town, parish, county) in the city result field separated by a "," (a comma and a blank), in small-to-big order.

As usual, "," indicates that the address label is not supposed to be broken into different lines at this position.

The Latvian standard alphabet consists of 33 letters (including ā, ē, ī, ūm ģ, ķ, ļ, ņ). Please use the UTF-8 character set.

When addressing a PO Box, you need the box number and the post office name instead of a street address.

Sometimes, so-called "Paketomati", (=self-service collection stations) may appear in an address. These are flagged as type 'P' in the validator output.

Examples

```
Eduarda Veidenbauma iela 5
Cēsis, Cēsu pilsēta
LV-7965
```

Netherlands (NL)

Netherlands addresses are usually two lines only.

Street Address

The street name is followed by the house number. If there is also a specific building number, it is separated from the house number with a dash '/'. If a specific premise is mentioned, it follows the house number with a '-'.

Generally, additional information should be kept a short as possible, when submitted

at all. Most of it is not necessary to find the right recipient and may possibly confuse the look-up.

Locality Line

The postal code consists of a 4-digit number as well as two capital letters specifying the area. The locality follows after the postal code. Postal codes never start with a '0'-digit.

Remarks

Validation of house number/building level is possible. In the Netherlands the address-validator is able to provide the information if an address is residential or commercial in the rdi output field. For mixed use addresses, or whenever the information is unknown, this result field remains empty.

Note that locality names may contain special characters, such as a single-quote character.

Some city names have official names that sometimes appear in postal addresses, for example "'s-Gravenhage" instead of the more common usage "Den Haag". Address-validator is configured to accept these variants as valid.

"Postbus" is used to denote a PO Box.

Examples

```
Broekstraat 5-2          (street address)
5231 PA 's-Hertogenbosch (locality line)
```

Norway (NO)

Norway addresses are usually two lines only. Don't add an apartment number, it is not needed for delivery, and the recipient name always suffices.

Street Address

The street name is followed by the house number. The number can be followed by a letter, like in "34A".

Locality Line

The postal code is a 4-digit number, with an optional "N-" or "NO-" prefix. The locality name follows.

Remarks

Validation covers the house number/building level. This also applies to the Svalbard archipelago (ISO country code SJ).

The word "Postboks" will indicate an addressing of a PO Box. After this, the number and post office follows.

Beware of special characters in the Norwegian language (such as ø, æ, å)! Please use the UTF-8 character set.

Examples

```
Postboks 301 Sentrum  (PO Box address)
2953 Beitostølen      (locality line)
```

Poland (PL)

Polish building addresses consist of two lines.

Street Address

The street name is followed by the house number.

In the street name, the type of street (ulica, plac) is usually ommitted, but not always. The house number can be followed by a letter, like in "3L". Note that all characters from the Polish alphabet are allowable, the house numbers "3L" and "3Ł" may denote different buildings. Housenumbers can be combined to ranges ("2-20", "31/33").

If an apartment number is given, it is likely separated using "m.". Note that apartment numbers are not validated. For best results, do not submit apartment numbers in the street address input.

If a village does not have streets, use the village name instead. In this case, the village name may appear twice, both in the street address and in the locality line (see examples below)

Locality Line

The postal code is a 5-digit number, grouped in two blocks of 2 and 3 digits, separated by a dash '-' character.

Remarks

Validation covers the house number/building level.

"Skr. poczt." indicates a PO Box.

Beware of special characters in the Polish language (such as ą, ś, or ż)! Please use the UTF-8 character set.

Examples

```
Świętokrzyska 31/33 (street address)
00-001 Warszawa     (locality line)

Zabiele 99a         (village and house number)
67-240 Zabiele      (locality line)
```

Portugal (PT)

Portuguese addresses consist of two to three lines.

Street Address

The street name is followed by the house number. The house number may be followed by a letter, like in "3L". In some areas, houses are not numbered. To validate these addresses, leave the house number input field empty.

Portuguese street names tend to run long, and abbreviations are not standardized. When in doubt, do not use any abbreviations. For example, it is preferable to write "Rua Vice Almirante António Ladislau Parreira da Rocha" in all its full-length glory. If you need to abbreviate anyway, start with the titles (such as Professor, Doutor, Monsenhor, Conselheiro, Vice Almirante), but keep the names intact where possible.

If the street address is not unique for a locality, a disambiguation line specifying the village may be needed.

Sometimes road mileages or the counting of crossroads might be involved ("1 Travessa Rua dos Moinhos") to address a particular building. Please be aware that address-validator is unable to return meaningful results for each and every address acceptable to postal services in Portugal.

Locality Line

The postal code is followed by the locality name, or the name of the postal area. This name is sometimes printed in capital letters, but common usage is mixed case. The postal code is a 7-digit number, grouped in two blocks of 4 and 3 digits, separated by a dash '-' character.

Remarks

Validation covers the house number/building level, but in rural areas the coverage is only down to street or village level. PO Boxes can be validated down to PO box number. Street-level matches are flagged by the "hskp" tag in the result diagnostics.

"Apartado" in the street address indicates a PO Box.

Please use the UTF-8 character set for best results, and be diligent with the accents.

Examples

```
Rua de Santa Maria de Achete 10 (street address)
Casais da Igreja                (disambiguation)
2000-336 Achete                 (locality line)
```

Slovenia (SI)

Building addresses in Slovenia consist of two lines.

Street Address

The street name is followed by the house number.

The house number can be followed by a letter, like in "9C". Note that all characters from the Slovenian alphabet are allowable, the house numbers "9C" and "9Č" may denote different buildings.

In general, the street name should be unique within a locality, but sometimes they are not. To disambiguate, the village name is prepended to street name, separated by ",". Consequently, street names may contain ",". Only split the address label suppled by address-validator, if the comma character ',' is not followed by a blank.

Locality Line

The postal code is a 4-digit number, and in common usage the ISO2 country code is prepended to the postal code. The postal code is followed by the locality name.

Remarks

Validation covers the house number/building level.

Self-service collection stations are adressed as "PS Paketomat".

Beware of special characters in the Slovenian alphabet, such as č! Please use the UTF-8 character set.

Parts of Slovenia are multi-lingual. Be careful not to mix Italian/Slovenian (or Hungarian/Slovenian) input when submitting an address for validation.

Be sure not to mix-up Slovenia/Republika Slovenija (SI) with Slovakia/Slovenská Republika (SK).

Examples

```
Metelkova ulica 2        (street address)
SI-1000 Ljubljana        (locality line)

Rakičan, Lendavska ulica 3 (street address, with village name
prepended)
SI-9000 Murska Sobota    (locality line)

Kidričeva 21             (street address, Slovenian)
SI-6000 Koper            (locality line, Slovenian)

Via Boris Kidrič 21      (street address, Italian)
SI-6000 Capodistria      (locality line, Italian)
```

Slovakia (SK)

In Slovakia, the recipient's last name is required to identify a recipient, and an

apartment number MUST NOT be supplied. Due to the sad reality that many houses have two numbers, adding an apartment number will only confuse the search algorithm.

An address label as returned be the address validator API typically consists of two lines. You can split the label into lines at the "," character, the "," character is not in use within a line itself.

Street Address

The street address consists of the street name followed by the house numbers. Small villages often do not use street names, and the village name is used instead.

Like in the Czech Republic, often two house numbers are used, though sometimes the registration number (číslo súpisné) is omitted for postal service if a second number (číslo orientačné) is available.

If both numbers are supplied to the address validator API, the registration number must be given first, followed by the house number unique to the street. The two numbers are separated by a slash '/'.

If the housenumber is followed by a letter, upper case letters are preferred.

In rare cases, either of the numbers are not unique, and two houses in the same postal district have the same street address. Disambiguation varies, sometimes an additional address line is provided, sometimes the name in the locality line is changed to the sublocality where the building is situated (see examples).

Locality Line

The locality line consists of the post code (five digits grouped as three and two digits) and the name of the municipiality/post office. Sometimes, there is a difference between the name given in the locality line and the walk-in address of a place. Example: Bratislava 1 (postal) corresponds to Bratislava-Staré Mesto (walk-in).

The address validator only uses the postal data to build the label. If different from the postal locality name, the walk-in name of the municipiality is provided in the district field (as always, the district field is of no postal relevance).

Note that the postal code space is shared with the Czech Republic (CZ).

Remarks

Validation covers the house number/building level. For about 75% of the Slovakia address space address-validator is able to provide information if an address is residential or commercial. For mixed use addresses, or whenever the information is unknown, and the rdi result field remains empty.

Both the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic still share the same postal code space. With the dissolution of Czechoslovakia (Československo) in 1993 now long past, we still see people searching for Czechia addresses in Slovakia. To avoid any complications, use the correct country code (CZ) to search for Czech addresses.

Be sure not to mix-up Slovakia/Slovenská Republika (SK) with Slovenia/Republika Slovenija (SI) residential delivery (RDI)

Slovak has letters with diacritical marks (á, ä, č, ď, é, í, Í, ľ, ň, ó, ô, ŕ, š, ť, ú, ý, ž). Please use the UTF-8 character set accordingly.

Sometimes, so-called "BalíkoBOX", (=self-service collection stations), are also addressed. In this case, the number of the BalíkoBOX must be supplied for validation. There are also P.O. Boxes (Poštová schránka). These are not street addresses, and hence they are flagged by address-validator as type "P".

Examples

```
Hlavná 47/88           (street address)
040 01 Košice 1        (locality line)

Vajanského nábrežie 2  (walk-in address, optional here)
Poštová schránka 13    (PO box address)
810 06 Bratislava 16   (locality line)

Hlavná 1/1             (street address)
Kašov                  (disambiguation)
076 02 Novosad         (locality line)

Hlavná 1/1             (street address)
076 02 Kašov           (locality line)
```

United States of America (US)

Postal addresses in the United States typically have two lines, the street address and the locality line (referred to as "last line" by the USPS). This applies to US overseas territories, with the notable exception of Puerto Rico (PR), where sometimes the "urbanization" must be specified in an additional line.

Urbanization (PR only)

In Puerto Rico, identical street names and house number ranges can be found within the same ZIP Code. In this case, the urbanization line must be added to disambiguate (see examples). With structured input, append the sublocality to the city name, separated by a single comma ',' character.

Street Address

The house number always precedes the street name. USPS allows for apartment info to be added after the street. It is recommended to use the official USPS abbreviations.

Locality Line

The locality line starts with the locality name, followed by the two-digit state code and the zipcode. Address-validator supports both 5-digit zip codes and zip+4 codes.

Remarks

Validation covers the apartment level.

If a an address in Puerto Rico requires to add an urbanization, either prepend the urbanization to the street address input field, or append it (big-to-small) to the city input field, separated by a comma ',' character. Make sure your input is clear and unambiguous: explicitly start the urbanization with the word "urbanization", or the abbreviation "urb".

In overseas territories, the ISO2 country code "US" works, but also the ISO2 country code of the territory. To validate an address in Puerto Rico, you can either submit "US" or "PR" as country code. Don't confuse the ISO2 country with the state code. The state code must always be submitted, but in overseas territories it is be the same as the ISO2 country code.

To specify a PO Box, always write "PO Box", even in Spanish-speaking territories. The PO Box specification replaces the street address line.

Don't expect the address validation results to be only US-ASCII characters. In some territories you will see UTF-8 characters in the validation return. If US-ASCII output is required, specify "OutputCharset=us-ascii" in your validation request.

Examples

```
2815 Directors Row Ste 100        (street address with
subbuilding info, using USPS abbrevs)
Orlando FL 32809-5514             (locality line)

Urb Royal Oaks                    (urbanization)
123 Calle 1                       (street address)
Bayamón PR 00961-0123             (locality line)

PO Box 9021190                    (street address, replaced by a
PO Box specification)
San Juan PR 00902-1190            (locality line)
```

Uruguay (UY)

Like in France, all caps and no diacritics is the preferred way to write postal addresses in Uruguay.

Street Address

The house number follows the street name.

In the street name, road types such as "Avenida" or "Bvd." are commonly ommitted, but not always.

Sometimes the street name is only a numbered road: RUTA 81.

Sometimes the street name contains kilometer ranges: RUTA 81 (KM. 5.0 A 6.0).

Sometimes the street name contains supplementary names RUTA 81 (COLONIA ESPANA).

Always write the street name completely without abbreviations: NUNEZ vs. MAURO NUNEZ (these are actually two different streets in 27200 CASTILLOS)

No house number (sin numeró) can be acceptable in some places. this is denoted by "S/N".

Also a house number can be supplied as road milage (in kilometers), like "KM. 31.0".

House number suffixes (ie. door letters) are not commonly used, and follow no standards. The format depends on the internal structure of a building or site.

Locality Line

The 5-digit postal code is followed by the name of the city.

Remarks

Apartment numbers, door letters and floor levels are not validated, validation is strictly building-level.

Examples

```
LUIS BATLLE BERRES 67
94000 FLORIDA
```