

July 25, 2008

To: Users of ArcGIS Server 9.3

Subject: Important Announcement—ArcSDE Server-Side Geocoding Deprecation at 9.3

ESRI has always been committed to providing our customers with the highest level of support and service. However, over time, some components of mature ESRI software must be marked for deprecation. Deprecation means that a particular feature is included in the product but that the support level for this feature is now mature support:

- No patches or hot fixes
- No new functionality
- No certification
- Phone support
- E-mail/Fax support
- Online Support Center

ArcGIS Server 9.3 offers a comprehensive and flexible capability to support server-side geocoding. Although ArcSDE has supported server-side geocoding, it is now no longer a recommended best practice to use for deploying server-side geocoding services. Because of this, ESRI has made a decision to deprecate ArcSDE server-side geocoding at the 9.3 release of ArcGIS Server. This means that ArcSDE server-side geocoding will not be included with the next release.

We recognize the investment our customers have made in ArcGIS Server software, related hardware, and staff training. We believe that we have an excellent migration story for using ArcGIS Server locators for anyone that is using ArcSDE server-side geocoding. A few key points of our migration story are

- Address locators created with ArcSDE 9.3 will continue to work at our next release, especially for address locators with embedded geocoding rule bases. There will be no need to make any changes to the address locators.
- Users who have been using ArcSDE address locators as server-side locators will need to use ArcGIS Server to publish the locators and use them as server-side geocoding services.

If you have any questions, please contact your local ESRI regional office manager or international distributor.

Sincerely,

Dirk Gorter  
Director of Products Management  
ESRI