

Global CRESTA Plus: New Release for insurers and reinsurers

Karlsruhe, 23.04.2014: The Global CRESTA Plus dataset has been completely revised in collaboration with the partner companies Europa Technologies and MB-International and is now available. The new Global CRESTA Plus zones are currently based on administrative and postcode boundaries rather than being risk-dependent.

There are two new products – "High Resolution" (HighRes) and "Low Resolution" (LowRes). Instead of the approx. 43,000 zones that have been available previously, in the revised standard there are approx. 4,500 LowRes-zones (for reporting and general overview) and approx. 250,000 HighRes-zones around the world (for detailed analysis). What's new is the aggregation of the CRESTA-zones on the basis of the administrative and postcode boundaries from MB-International. Also, the number of available countries has increased from 86 to 137 countries.

Warren Vick, Founder & Director of Europa Technologies explains why the data has been fundamentally reformed: "The objective of the reform, defined by the CRESTA organisation, is to provide a uniform data aggregation standard worldwide for companies in the insurance and reinsurance industry and thus offer insurers even greater value. Administrative and postcode boundaries are more detailed than the previous boundaries which were defined according to the existence of hazards.

Another advantage is the clearly defined vintage which is an important criterion for accurate and current risk analysis. Postcode boundaries are particularly useful for geographical analysis and are an essential tool for all businesses today. They are a unique key, regardless of language and spelling.

MBI's postcode and administrative boundaries are ideal for the development of the Global CRESTA Plus-zones with global coverage and seamless boundaries with no gaps between adjacent zones or countries, enabling cross border analysis and the hierarchical structure of the data", said Warren Vick.

Global CRESTA Plus offers insurers an important basis for aggregated risk assessment, exposure management, reinsurance and reporting. Global CRESTA Plus can be supplemented with a variety of national or international data sets such as

earthquake locations, storm paths, meteorological, geological and insurance-specific statistical data.

Global CRESTA Plus

The digital map “Global CRESTA Plus” helps insurers and reinsurers manage risk and aggregated exposure to natural hazards such as drought, storms, flood and earthquake. The product implements the global zones, defined by the CRESTA organisation (Catastrophe Risk Evaluation and Standardizing Target Accumulations).

MB-International provides the data for use in a GIS (geographical information system) in almost all standard formats e.g. *.tab for MapInfo Professional or shape (*.shp) for ESRI ArcGis and ArcView.

For more information please go to <http://www.mbi-geodata.com/index.php/global-cresta>

About Michael Bauer International GmbH:

MB-International, a sister company of MB-Research, offers a wide range of data products for business-critical geospatial analysis. MB-International's products include Population, Households, Age Bands, Unemployment as well as Purchasing Power, Retail Turnover and Consumer Spending on most geographical levels. They also produce and license vector postcode (ZIP) and administrative boundaries for most countries Worldwide.

MB-International is a manufacturer and reseller of their own map, socio-demographics and boundary data that strives to provide businesses which want to make better informed investment with market data. With a team of experienced consultants they have a collective 30 years of experience in the Global GIS and Geo-data industry.

MB-International is committed to supporting their customers to achieve an effective set-up and continuous handling of their geodata. Specialized in providing tailor-made data products according to each customer's individual requirements. MB-International's data is used globally by GIS engineers, Marketing executives, OEMs and controllers' for sales targeting, expansion planning and site location analysis in a wide range of Geomarketing and Business Intelligence applications.

For more information about Michael Bauer International GmbH, please visit
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