

Vicmap Change Notice

Vicmap Change # 217

Date of Notice : 6th September 2016

Reduce Vicmap Address LOCATION_DESCRIPTOR maximum field length to 10 characters.

What is happening

The field length of Vicmap Address *LOCATION_DESCRIPTOR* is to be reduced from VARCHAR2(45) to VARCHAR2(10)

Why is this change occurring

Vicmap Address is a very large file and has reached a size that is causing problems delivering shape file and MapInfo extracts. By reducing the *LOCATION_DESCRIPTOR* field length, a window of at least one year exists for other alternatives to this problem to be developed, socialised and deployed.

IUF customers should not be affected.

Who will it affect

This change will affect all users of Vicmap Address.

When will the change occur

This change is scheduled to occur from the 27th September 2016.

Background

Shape files and MapInfo tables have a data supply size limit of 2 Gigabytes. Once the size limit is exceeded, the only option currently available is to split the data supplies into two files.

Spatial DataMart splits a file once the table exceeds the file size limit. There are two issues with the process:

- The file is split based on the entire table size. So when a subset of the table is requested, the split process is still enacted due to the entire table being in excess of 2 Gigabytes.
- The naming convention of the first table has changed from Address to Address_1 with the second file named Address_2. This has caused loading issues at the customer end.



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Five options have been discussed as solutions to the problem (see dot points below):

- Do nothing and advise Vicmap users that this is now how it is
- Fix Spatial DataMart so that the 2 tables delivered are called: ADDRESS and ADDRESS_1 (Implemented)
- Change the data model of ADDRESS and shorten the field length of *LOCATION_DESCRIPTOR* (To be implemented as part of this change notice).
- Create two tables that contain part of the address. The main table would be spatial and contain most attributes. To access the less commonly used address attributes the secondary table would need to be joined to the main table. (Implemented)
- Explore other delivery formats with affected Vicmap users (e.g. File Geodatabase, Web Feature Services)

Spatial DataMart has been fixed to alleviate customer loading issues and it is proposed that the *LOCATION_DESCRIPTOR* be shortened.

General Notes

Prior to progressing with the shortening of the *LOCATION_DESCRIPTOR*, an investigation of Vicmap Address was carried out and only 19 records exceeds 10 characters in length for the attribute. In every case an alternative is available for holding the information. The seven LGAs that have provided this information have been contacted and they are all prepared to accept the reduction of the field length of this attribute as long as they are informed where the information is being moved to within the address table.

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For further information please email Vicmap.info@delwp.vic.gov.au

