



Press release OpenAddresses.org

OpenAddresses.org, a community web site for the management of free and open addresses has been launched

As a typical web 2.0 application, <http://www.openaddresses.org> aims to collect free and open geolocated addresses. This community web site allows everyone to store, manage and use address points.

Why are geolocated addresses so important ?

Geolocated addresses are, for example, used in a GPS to find a place to meet, used by businesses to locate their customers and improve geomarketing, used by statisticians to analyze populations or used in city plans, presentations etc...

Geolocated addresses are required to deliver geocoding services ("Where is main street ?") or reverse geocoding services ("What is the nearest address to this location ?"). OpenAddresses.org freely provides this kind of services.

Why are free and open data important ?

The currently available data sets are not free of rights, expensive or don't cover the whole planet. The goal of OpenAddresses.org is let everyone use geolocated addresses free of charge, with an open license and covering the whole planet. To achieve this goal, the OpenAddresses.org community creates and updates this dataset.

What is the history of the project OpenAddresses.org ?

The project was launched in 2007 in Switzerland, under the leadership of University of Applied Sciences Northwestern Switzerland (FHNW). Then, in 2009, a group of people and companies decided to create a global directory of addresses and have developed a new website. Currently more than 5 million addresses are available and data for countries like Denmark or cantons as Solothurn (Switzerland) are fully acquired.

How is this related to the famous project OpenStreetMap.org ?

OpenStreetMap.org and OpenAddresses.org are complementary and share the same philosophy. OpenAddresses.org focuses only on the address points and provides a specialized and dedicated platform. The goal is that each project benefits from the other. The data are regularly synchronized to allow such reciprocity.

How can I concretely be part of OpenAddresses.org ?

First by entering addresses! Or even better, by providing addresses or other data to enter addresses as aerial photographs, building plans etc ...

Additional Information:

- The website: <http://www.openaddresses.org/>
- User guide: <http://code.google.com/p/openaddresses/wiki/UserGuideEn>
- FAQ: <http://code.google.com/p/openaddresses/wiki/FAQ>
- For all other questions: info@openaddresses.org
- Discussion group: <http://groups.google.com/group/OpenAddresses>
- Blog: <http://openaddresses.blogspot.com/>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/openaddresses>
- Community site: <http://code.google.com/p/openaddresses/>