



GEOSCIENCE

Standing Scientific Group



Documentation for

Composite Gazetteer of Antarctica (CGA) ArcInfo export file (antname.e00)

Background

The present work on the CGA has been performed by an Italian team under the supervision of Prof Roberto Cervellati, the Italian Member in the SCAR Group of Experts on Geospatial Information, Geoscience Standing Scientific Group (formerly the Working Group on Geodesy and Geographic Information [WG-GGI]).

The hard copy version (two volumes) of the CGA was presented by Italy at the WG-GGI SCAR meeting at Concepción (Chile - July 1998). Afterwards an additional volume updating the previous work was issued. It was distributed at the XXVI SCAR meeting of Tokyo (Japan, July 2000). The present web site (www.pnra.it/SCAR_GAZE) includes in a database all the information of the three volumes of the CGA and all variations, amendments and new names arrived later to the Italian group. The database contains all the names officially given to Antarctic geographic features by 23 countries, with the addition of the Antarctic undersea features taken from the "General Bathymetric Chart of the Ocean" (GEBCO). The names included in the database are those south of the 60° S parallel, this being the line usually taken as the formal border of the Antarctica.

The database at 1 January 2002 includes 34100 official names, corresponding to 17042 features. A reference number identifies every geographic feature, which is useful to find the names given to a feature by the different countries. For example, under the reference number 8206 the names appearing in the gazetteers of Argentina, Chile, Great Britain, Russia and USA can be found, together with the coordinates of their respective gazetteers.

To every place-name a [feature class number](#) is associated, to help understanding the geographic nature of a feature. The feature class number is mostly needed for those names where the generic part is absent or is hidden into the name.

Further detailed information on the project and database is available from the CGA web site: http://www.pnra.it/LUOGHI_ANT/HTML_en/indice_doc_scar.html

ArcInfo file details

The file <antname.e00> contains only point features and has the following structure:

Field Name	Field Type	Field Width	Description
nameplr-id	binary	5	An ArcInfo system generated number.
reference	integer	5	The CGA reference number generated by Italy.
name	character	50	The name of the feature.
source	character	3	The country responsible for naming the feature in the database. For more details see - http://www.pnra.it/LUOGHI_ANT/HTML_en/ANN_EX/e.html
class	character	3	As mentioned above. For more details see http://www.pnra.it/LUOGHI_ANT/HTML_en/ANN_EX/f.html
approval	character	10	This is the date the name was approved as an official Antarctic name by the source country. If the field was blank in the original database a "na" for "not applicable" has been inserted.
height	Number and 1 decimal place	6	As found in the database. If the field was blank in the original database a "9999" for "height unknown" has been inserted. The height is assumed to be height above sea level.

The datum and spheroid for the file is assumed to be WGS84.

WARNING: Whilst the name information supplied to the CGA from official sources may be correct there has been no such information supplied regarding the coordinates, datum and spheroid supplied.

The only field not appearing in the <antname.e00> file is the "description" field. There was too much text for the GIS to handle. If you are interested in the description of a particular feature then you can search the original database by either name or reference number:

http://www.pnra.it/cgi-bin/LUOGHI_ANT/ENG/luoghi_ant_en?hst=apple.arcoveggio.enea.it&db=LUOGHI_ANT&tb=tabella&db1=CLASSI&tb1=tabella

DISCLAIMER

Information in the Composite Gazetteer of Antarctica has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable but its accuracy and completeness, and the opinions based thereon, are not guaranteed. As every effort has been made to provide accurate information in this database, SCAR would appreciate it if users could indicate in writing any errors that may be noticed. SCAR is not inviting reliance on these data, and the user should always check original published data. The information herein is subject to change.

For further information about the ArcInfo export file please contact:

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