Annex G
(normative)

Change and deprecation plan

G.1 Overview

Instances of SRM concepts – such as spatial reference frames, parameter values, object reference models, and other related information – describe models of various spatial objects of interest, including the Earth and other celestial bodies. As the state of a spatial object changes (e.g., the locations of the geomagnetic poles of the Earth gradually move), or the knowledge about a particular spatial object improves, the corresponding instances of the SRM concept associated with that spatial object need to change as well. This includes adding new concept instances, updating existing concept instances by creating new versions, or declaring older versions obsolete.

Different instances of an SRM concept may be used to represent a spatial object during different time periods. These different instances are commonly distinguished from one another based on the start and/or end dates of their applicable time periods. As the knowledge about a particular spatial object improves, new versions of a concept instance may need to be created. These versions are commonly distinguished from one another based on the version identifiers or publication dates of their respective reference documents.

As SRM concept instances are added, updated, or declared obsolete, this document and its authorized registered items will evolve. Declaring an SRM concept instance obsolete is termed deprecation. To ensure the long-term coherence and orderly evolution of this document, this annex defines procedures for change or deprecation of instances of SRM concepts. This annex also defines how a deprecated SRM concept instance may be reinstated. Addition, change, deprecation, or reinstatement procedures are in accordance with ISO/IEC 9973.

G.2 Addition

This document allows new instances of some SRM concepts to be specified by registration (see Clause 13). New instances of SRM concepts may also be introduced through amendment or revision.

G.3 Change

G.3.1 Overview

To ensure a stable evolution process while protecting the investment of users, care shall be taken when changes are made to SRM concept instances, whether they were originally defined in this document or later by registration. The following rules apply both to changes to this document by amendment or revision and to changes to SRM registered items:

a) Changes to an SRM concept instance, to the extent allowed in corrigenda, that correct errors without changing its semantic meaning, shall be accomplished in accordance with G.3.2. Such changes are termed corrections.

b) Changes to an SRM concept instance that are the result of new or refined information about the spatial object shall be accomplished by creating a new version of the concept instance, in accordance with G.3.3. Such changes are termed updates.

c) Versions of SRM concept instances that are determined to have become obsolete as a result of updates may be deprecated in accordance with G.4.

d) *Reuse* of an SRM code or SRM label means assignment of that SRM code or SRM label to denote a different concept instance than originally assigned. No SRM code or SRM label shall be reused.

e) SRM profiles shall not be changed. If an SRM profile requires change, it shall be deprecated and a new SRM profile shall be introduced by registration or amendment.

G.3.2 Correction

Correction involves modification as a result of an error discovered in the reference document for an SRM concept instance. This may be the result of an editorial, typographical, or other publication error in an earlier edition of the reference document. The error may be in a parameter value, in the label, or other data fields of the SRM concept instance. The correction may have been discovered in a later edition of the reference document or in a corrigendum to the earlier edition.

Correction may also apply to any concept instance whose data has not changed, but a new edition of its reference document has been published. The reference for the concept instance is corrected to refer to the new edition.

Correction may also arise as the result of an error that occurred while incorporating information from the reference document into this document.

When a correction is made to an SRM concept instance, the correction shall be published in a corrigendum to this document to alert users to the change. It is not necessary to create a new version of the concept instance, since a correction does not change the intended semantic meaning of the concept.

G.3.3 Update

Update involves modification as a result of revised or updated knowledge about an SRM concept instance. This commonly involves the refinement of the parameter values of a spatial object, as a result of incorporating more recent observations, measurements, or analysis. These refined parameter values for an SRM concept instance are normally contained in an updated edition of the associated reference document.

When an update to an SRM concept instance is required, a new version of the existing concept instance shall be added to the standard. Whether the existing version of the concept instance should be retained or deprecated is determined in accordance with G.4.2(a).

G.4 Deprecation

G.4.1 Overview

Deprecation provides a process whereby this document and the register may declare an SRM concept instance obsolete.

G.4.2 Deprecation of SRM standardized concept instances

The following rules apply to deprecation of SRM standardized concept instances:

a) Deprecation of existing SRM concept instances shall be determined by an assessment of the potential future use of the existing concept instance. The supporting reference for deprecated concept instances shall be retained until the concept instance is completely removed from this document. If the values for the SRM concept instance were referenced, and the supporting reference document is no longer available, the values from the supporting reference shall be explicitly included in this document to allow users to continue to have access to this information.