

OpenCalais R4.3 Release Notes

What's in R4.3

OpenCalais Release 4.3 (R4.3) includes some new capabilities and numerous bug fixes.

New capability has been added that [normalizes people's names](#) as they are extracted from the content. As with companies and geographies, we do not (yet) have disambiguation information and assign a separate disambiguated Linked Data URI to people's names, however, we are pleased with the initial results and want to share it with our users.

[Social Tags](#) suggestions got sophisticated in R4.3. OpenCalais now suggests generalized tags for your content. For example, if a blog post is comparing sports cars like Ferrari 308 GTB and Porsche 959, OpenCalais suggests auto racing and motorsport as Social Tags, in addition to sports cars.

We have additional semantic metadata for English-language content; they include new event types focused around politics.

Detailed feature highlights are listed in the table below.

R4.3 Features – Highlights

People Name Normalization	<p>We are making this feature publicly available as we see good results at the completion of its first milestone.</p> <p>Whenever a partial or extended name of a person appears in the content, OpenCalais suggests a normalized common name. For example: For all articles containing Barack Obama, Obama or Barack Hussein Obama, OpenCalais suggests the common/popular name: Barack Obama.</p> <p>Common name suggestions appear as a separate predicate of extracted Person entity which are resources of type http://s.opencalais.com/1/type/em/e/Person. Note the <code>c:commonname</code> predicate highlighted below from an excerpt our RDF output.</p> <pre><rdf:Description rdf:about="http://d.opencalais.com/pershash-1/cbc8c069-5e3f-3778-b9e5-e93f1c6d323a"> <rdf:type rdf:resource="http://s.opencalais.com/1/type/em/e/Person"/> <c:name>Obama</c:name> <c:commonname>Barack Obama</c:commonname> </rdf:Description></pre> <p>Note that in cases when we cannot normalize a name of a person then the value of common name is same as the extracted value. In the future, People Names will have more disambiguation information and disambiguated Linked Data URIs, similar to company, geo entities and products.</p>
English Language New/Enhanced Entities	See Table 1: New/Enhanced Entities - English
English Language New/Enhanced Events/Facts	See Table 2: New/Enhanced Events/Facts - English
Simple Format output	See Table 3: Simple Format Output.
Microformats rel-tag output	See Table 4: Microformats rel-tag Output.
Improved Entity Disambiguation	Algorithmic and supporting data improvements for company and geographical disambiguation
Updated supporting data for entities	We have updated supporting data for entities such as Movie, MusicAlbum, MusicGroup, MedicalTreatment and few others, enabling Open Calais to suggest latest movies, albums, etc.
New predicate for company resolution nodes	For disambiguated companies, OpenCalais adds separate resolution nodes in the output RDF. For companies you will now see a new predicate named <code>c:shortname</code> , which will hold the common/popular name of a company.
Calais Ontology in OWL	We have published the Calais ontology in OWL enabling OWL enthusiasts to apply ontology based tools on Open Calais metadata. See http://opencalais.com/documentation/calais-web-service-ajii/owl .

Table 1: New/Enhanced Entities - English

PoliticalEvent	<p>Extracts information about two major types of political events: Voting and Other. While the first refers to any voting event, e.g., election, primary, etc., the latter refers to an event with political reference such as rallies, demonstrations, debates, speeches, etc.</p> <p>Example: Conservative billionaire Silvio Berlusconi won Italy's general elections.</p> <p>Extracted instance: <i>PoliticalEvent</i> = general elections <i>PoliticalEventType</i> = Voting <i>Location</i> = Italy</p>
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Table 2: New/Enhanced Events/Facts - English

DiplomaticRelations	<p>Extracts information about diplomatic relations between diplomatic entities (i.e., countries, governments, minority groups, regions, international organizations or a person who is a spokesperson for a group).</p> <p>Example: Russia responded by saying it was suspending military cooperation with Latvia, Estonia and Norway.</p> <p>Extracted Instance 1: <i>DiplomaticEntity1</i> = Russia <i>DiplomaticAction</i> = Military Alliance Suspension <i>DiplomaticEntity2</i> = Latvia</p> <p>Extracted Instance 2: <i>DiplomaticEntity1</i> = Russia <i>DiplomaticAction</i> = Military Alliance Suspension <i>DiplomaticEntity2</i> = Estonia</p> <p>Extracted Instance 3: <i>DiplomaticEntity1</i> = Russia <i>DiplomaticAction</i> = Military Alliance Suspension <i>DiplomaticEntity2</i> = Norway</p>
PoliticalEndorsement	<p>Extracts information about endorsements between parties, people or lobbies.</p> <p>Example: Obama wins endorsement of government employees union</p> <p>Extracted Instance: <i>GroupEndorsed</i> = Barack Obama <i>GroupEndorser</i> = government employees union</p>
PollsResult	<p>Extracts information about results of a vote, received in a poll.</p> <p>Example: CNN-Opinion Research Corp. poll, conducted December 14-18, put Huckabee over Romney.</p> <p>Extracted instance: <i>WinningCandidate</i> = Mike Huckabee <i>Opponent</i> = Mitt Romney <i>PollConductor</i> = CNN-Opinion Research Corp.</p>

VotingResult	<p>Extracts information about results of a vote.</p> <p>Example: Boris Johnson defeated Ken Livingstone in the London mayoral election.</p> <p>Extracted instance: <i>PoliticalEvent</i> = mayoral election <i>WinningCandidate</i> = Boris Johnson <i>Opponent</i> = Ken Livingstone <i>Location</i> = London</p>
NaturalDisaster (Enhanced)	<p>Added a new attribute Effect that shows the effect of a natural disaster.</p> <p>Example: Rare winter tornadoes that destroyed more than two dozen homes and damaged nearly 80 others in Kenosha County on Jan. 7.</p> <p>Extracted instance: <i>NaturalDisaster</i> = tornado <i>Location</i> = Kenosha County <i>LocationType</i> = ProvinceOrState <i>Date</i> = 2009-01-07 <i>DateString</i> = Jan. 7</p>
ManmadeDisaster (Enhanced)	<p>Added a new attribute Effect that shows the effect of a natural disaster.</p> <p>Example: A fire destroyed a Cargill Meat Solutions (unit of Cargill Inc) beef processing plant in Booneville, Arkansas, on March 23, 2008.</p> <p>Extracted instance: <i>DisasterType</i> = fire <i>Location</i> = Booneville <i>LocationType</i> = City <i>Date</i> = 2008-03-23 <i>DateString</i> = March 23, 2008 <i>Effect</i> = destroyed a Cargill Meat Solutions (unit of Cargill Inc) beef processing plant</p>
PersonCareer (Enhanced)	<p>This event now extracts information about a Person and Party affinity.</p> <p>Example: Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) -- Founded in 1994 by Pushpa Kamal Dahal, widely known as Prachanda.</p> <p>Extracted instance: <i>Person</i> = Pushpa Kamal Dahal <i>Organization</i> = Communist Party of Nepal <i>CareerType</i> = Political</p>

Table 3: Simple Format Output

Calais Type	Simple Format Output	Notes
PoliticalEvent	"Political Event"	New Type
DiplomaticRelations	"Diplomatic Relations"	New Type
PoliticalEndorsement	"Political Endorsement"	New Type
PollsResult	"Polls Result"	New Type
VotingResult	"Voting Result"	New Type

Table 4: Microformats rel-tag Output

Calais Entity/Event Type	Rel-tag Output	Notes
PoliticalEvent	"Political Event"	New Type
DiplomaticRelations	"Diplomatic Relations"	New Type
PoliticalEndorsement	"Political Endorsement"	New Type
PollsResult	"Polls Result"	New Type
VotingResult	"Voting Result"	New Type

Bug Fixes

R4.3 includes a number of bug fixes:

- Numerous extraction bugs
- SimpleFormat and MicroFormat outputs display non English characters properly
- Forum bug fixes:
 - <http://opencalais.com/forums/geek-speak-technical-usage-and-issues-questions-and-hints/invalid-xml-returned-textsimple-for>
 - <http://www.opencalais.com/node/30138>

Known Issues

- The Location attribute in PoliticalEvent instances appears as a literal rather than a URI of the city or state. For example, for the following PoliticalEvent
PoliticalEvent = general elections
PoliticalEventType = Voting
Location = Italy

Value type of Location attribute will be string literal rather than a resource with a URI of Italy.

Other Resources

Detailed information about using OpenCalais is included in the [online documentation](#). If you have specific questions, one of the first places to look for additional information is in the [Forums](#) on the Calais website, where Calais users share their knowledge and expertise, and questions are answered by the Calais team.