

FME: A Superior Choice for Generating KML

Key Facts

Feature: FME's graphical spatial ETL authoring environment, FME Workbench

Capabilities: Convert existing CAD, GIS and raster data into KML files for your Google Earth projects

Benefits: Faster and easier data conversion

FME's extensive spatial ETL capabilities are unmatched. With FME, you can harness unique processing power that extends far beyond simple format to format translation, and allows you to transform the underlying data model. Before creating your KML file, you can combine and manipulate your source data in ways that are not possible with other translation tools.

As a complete solution for converting GIS data to KML for your Google Earth projects, FME offers the following advantages:

An intuitive authoring environment

FME's graphical authoring environment can save you hours of time when compared with using conventional scripts. Simply drag-and-drop prepackaged transformation processes or "transformers" onto a workspace to create your data transformation workflow. Reviewing and updating your data transformation is just as easy, since the interface provides a visual representation of the transformation process.

Extensive format support

Unlike point solutions which are limited to a single format, FME allows you to convert data from multiple file formats. With FME, you can create KML, KML 2.1 and KMZ files from source data in over 200 CAD, GIS, raster and database formats. More than 30 raster file types are supported, including MrSID, GeoTIFF, ECW, ERDAS IMAGINE, and JPEG 2000.

Flexible data integration

FME manages more than one source file at a time; you can easily merge multiple files in diverse formats into a single KML file.

Unparalleled raster handling

FME's superior raster processing power allows you to quickly resample and reproject raster files. FME automatically reprojects both vector and raster data to LL-84 from over 5,000 supported coordinate systems, and properly georeferences raster data within the KML file.



Powerful data model restructuring

During the data conversion process, you can transform your data in hundreds of different ways to create unique views for different user communities. FME's wide variety of transformation options give you the flexibility to:

- Filter details from source data
- Modify existing feature geometry
- Clip regions from a larger source dataset
- Add and alter attribute data
- Merge spatial data with other information from Oracle, Microsoft, and open source databases
- Change feature styling
- Recalculate measurements and statistics associated with each feature
- Aggregate multiple features into a single feature
- Smooth feature boundaries
- Resample and merge raster data
- Invoke Python or TCL functionality during the data transformation
- And much more...

KML Elements Supported

With FME 2007, you can create and manage most KML elements supported by Google Earth. You can use FME to:

- Create point, line, or polygon Placemarks
- Create paths for Placemarks
- Define schema elements (writing only)
- Adjust content and appearance of Balloons attached to Placemarks
- Add new layers that include raster and vector Ground Overlays and Screen Overlays
- Specify Regions and NetworkLinks to efficiently load large datasets from a local file or server (KML 2.1)
- Incrementally update data loaded by NetworkLinks
- Preserve Unicode encodings in attribute data to correctly display annotations in any language

KML support in FME is provided by FME Professional edition or higher.

