FME & Esri ArcGIS Data Interoperability FAQ

Is ArcGIS Data Interoperability the same thing as FME®?

No. ArcGIS Data Interoperability is not the same as FME. ArcGIS Data Interoperability is a subset of FME functionality crafted specifically to run inside of ESRI ArcGIS using FME technology.

FME as a standalone application lets you create and execute workspaces both outside and inside your Esri environment. As well, it has more formats – raster, vector, spatial, and non-spatial – and transformation capabilities than ArcGIS Data Interoperability.

Can ArcGIS Data Interoperability run my existing FME workspaces?

No. ArcGIS Data Interoperability cannot run existing FME workspaces. If an FME user has workspaces, they will have to recreate the functionality of their existing workspaces within ArcGIS. This may or may not be successful, as the ArcGIS Data Interoperability extension doesn't contain full FME functionality (see next question).

Note: *It is possible to copy and paste transformers and data models between workspaces made with FME into custom tools made with Workbench inside of ArcGIS.*

Does ArcGIS Data Interoperability contain all FME transformers?

No. Not all transformers are included in the extension. For example, some transformers duplicate functionality already available in ArcGIS and aren't included as part of the extension.

These additional transformers become available when FME Desktop is added to ArcGIS Data Interoperability, which can be done through an upgrade (the ArcGIS Data Interop Edition) or with a full FME license (the Esri Edition).

Are all the FME formats inside ArcGIS Data Interoperability?

No. ArcGIS Data Interoperability provides access to a subset of FME's supported formats list.

View the complete list of formats supported by both ArcGIS Data Interoperability and FME Esri Edition.

Do formats developed by third parties work with ArcGIS Data Interoperability?

No. Only formats that ship with ArcGIS Data Interoperability are supported. To access additional formats, add an FME Desktop license – either the Data Interop upgrade or FME Esri Edition. Once this is installed, the ArcGIS Data Interoperability gains the full functionality of the FME ESRI Edition.

View the complete list of formats supported by both ArcGIS Data Interoperability and FME Esri Edition.

Who should I contact for ArcGIS Data Interoperability support?

This is an ESRI product, sold and supported by ESRI. Queries or support should go through the appropriate ESRI channel.

However, Safe Software does offer Professional Services for ArcGIS Data Interoperability through its Solution Assistance and Training offerings – contact *sales@safe.com* for details and prices.

I have FME installed and notice that each time that I start FME, it is also checking out a Data Interoperability license. Is this expected?

If you have upgraded from ArcGIS Data Interoperability with an FME ArcGIS Data Interop Edition, then the answer is yes. This edition is a supplemental license to the ArcGIS Data Interoperability license and is dependent on that license. To use FME without the Esri licensing requirement, you need FME Esri Edition.