The RequestCardRanges method of the 3-D Secure component sends a "Card Range Request" to the directory server. The response to this request contains a list of card number ranges that are eligible for 3-D Secure enrollment. If the card number presented by the customer falls within one of these ranges, the customer might be enrolled in 3-D Secure service, but the VerifyEnrollment method needs to be used to find out for sure (code sample below). If the customer card number does not fall within any of these ranges, then you know the customer is definitely not enrolled in 3-D Secure, and regular credit card authorization should continue on without any 3-D Secure authentication.

After the RequestCardRanges method returns, the component's CardRanges collection will be populated with the ranges. RequestCardRanges can either return all eligible card ranges, or it can return the changes in eligible card ranges since a previous request. This behavior is controlled by the SerialNumber property. If the SerialNumber property has a value of "" (empty string) before calling RequestCardRanges, the full list of eligible card ranges will be returned. If the SerialNumber property has a non-empty value prior to calling the RequestCardRanges method, then only the changes since the last response matching the specified SerialNumber will be returned. So you can send a request for the full list, save the results, and then for subsequent card range requests you can simply get the changes and update your saved list of ranges. This allows you to avoid downloading a large list of eligible card ranges too often, but it is recommended that you refresh your local cache with a full list periodically.

For example, CardRanges[0].Begin and CardRanges[0].End may be one range of eligible card numbers. If CardRanges[0].Action is "A", the cards in that range are eligible. If CardRanges[0].Action is "D", the cards in that range are no longer eligible and should be deleted from any locally saved cache of card ranges.