
Title: LS on Adding ANSI protocols to 3GPP Iu lower layer specifications
Release: All Release

Source: RAN3
To: TSG-CN
Cc: TSG-RAN, GERAN

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Attachments: LS to RAN3 from T1P1 [R3-041201].

1. Background:

RAN3 received one LS from T1P1, which requests to add ANSI specification references to 3GPP to physical layer and signaling bearer specifications as an option for UTRAN interfaces.

RAN3 identified that some ANSI references are already provided in the physical layer specification TS 25.411, however no ANSI option is provided for ANSI SS7 transport layers in the relevant specifications.

RAN3 discussed the LS (see attachment) and decided to ask individual members of T1P1 to prepare CRs to these related specifications and submit them to 3GPP TSG RAN3 #44 meeting for further discussion and approval.

RAN3 also discussed T1P1' request to update the relevant specifications from Release 99 onwards and came to the conclusion that this is possibly not necessary.

Considering the relationship with CN on the requested modifications, RAN3 would like to inform CN for the activities and also would like to ask CN to review the attached LS and let RAN3 know if CN has any concern and suggestion.

2. Actions:

- RAN3 would like to ask CN to review the attached from T1P1 and to provide feedback on RAN3' approach to the issue, especially if any potential concern is identified

3. Date of Next RAN3 Meetings:

TSG RAN WG3 #44	04 – 08 October 2004, Sophia Antipolis, France
TSG RAN WG3 #45	15 – 19 November, Shin-Yokohama, Japan

To: 3GPP RAN3

CC: 3GPP RAN

From: T1P1

Re: Addition of ANSI lower layer protocols to Iu-related interfaces

T1P1 has identified a North American requirement to allow ANSI protocols to be used at the Iu lower protocol layers (signaling transport and physical layers) Currently, only the ITU protocols are referenced in the various Iu-related interface specifications.

The UMTS Iu and Iur interfaces will vary depending on protocol compliance with the ANSI or the ITU version for the signaling transport layers. There are several reasons why the option of lower layer ANSI protocols are required in North America. First, the general requirement of T1P1 is to use North American standards in all open interfaces, specifically because there must be a common look and feel for the protocol stacks in terms of monitoring, data correlation and maintenance. Second, North American networks currently support the use of ANSI narrowband SS7 in the A-interface for GSM. The core network node specifications (e.g., for MSC and SGSN) already support ANSI interfaces for MAP and ISUP. Third, shared RNC with MSCs in a pool (also known as Iu-flex) will require a common Iu protocol stack at all RNC-MSC interfaces for better network management.

T1P1 requests that the relevant 3GPP specs be updated to provide the option for ANSI SS7 transport layers (SCCP, MTP3b, SSSCF-NNI) in the UMTS Iu and Iur interfaces and for an ANSI physical layer in the UMTS Iu, Iur, and Iub interfaces. Such updates should include all 3GPP releases back to and including R99.