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Presentation of Technical Specification to TSG SA

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Subscription Management Architecture

Presented for: Approval

Abstract of document:

This Technical specification defines the architecture for Subscription Management.

Work done against WID in SP-020448 - SA#17 approved (09/02).

TSG Approval target for the entire Feature remains 03/2004.

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- Changes to clause 4, Subscription Management Architecture
- New subclause 4.4, Methodology
- New Annex A, Relationship of Subscription Management to GUP reference architecture,

Outstanding Issues:

None.

Contentious Issues:

None.

3GPP TS 32.141 V2.0.0 (2003-09)

Technical Specification

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Foreword

This Technical Specification has been produced by the 3rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP).

The contents of the present document are subject to continuing work within the TSG and may change following formal TSG approval. Should the TSG modify the contents of the present document, it will be re-released by the TSG with an identifying change of release date and an increase in version number as follows:

Version x.y.z

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- x the first digit:
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- z the third digit is incremented when editorial only changes have been incorporated in the document.

Introduction

The 3G environment requires more complex service delivery mechanisms and is no longer simply an internal matter for a single operator but a capability that is achieved by linking together features across multiple service providers and operators. Subscription management is a feature that permits Service Providers, Value Added Service Providers, and Mobile Operators to provision services for a specific subscriber. The feature is necessary to allow service providers and operators to provision, control, monitor and bill the configuration of services that they offer to their subscribers.

For further detail please refer to Subscription management requirements specification that gives an overview of Subscription management in addition to release 6 requirements (3GPP TS 32.140 [5]).

1 Scope

The present document defines the architecture for Subscription management.

2 References

The following documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of the present document.

- References are either specific (identified by date of publication, edition number, version number, etc.) or non-specific.
- For a specific reference, subsequent revisions do not apply.
- For a non-specific reference, the latest version applies. In the case of a reference to a 3GPP document (including a GSM document), a non-specific reference implicitly refers to the latest version of that document *in the same Release as the present document.*

```
[1]
                3GPP TR 21.905: "Vocabulary for 3GPP Specifications".
[2]
                3GPP TS 23.002: "Network Architecture".
[3]
                3GPP TS 32.101: "Telecommunication management; Principles and high level requirements".
[4]
                3GPP TS 32.102: "Telecommunication management; Architecture".
[5]
                3GPP TS 32.140: "Telecommunication management; Services operations management;
                Subscription management requirements".
[6]
                3GPP TS 23.008: "Organization of subscriber data".
[7]
                3GPP TS 22.240: "Service requirements for the 3GPP Generic User Profile (GUP); Stage 1".
[8]
                3GPP TS 23.240: "3GPP Generic User Profile (GUP) requirements; Architecture (Stage 2)".
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3 Definitions and abbreviations

3.1 Definitions

For the purposes of the present document, the following terms and definitions apply:

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subscriber: See 3GPP TR 21.905 [1]. service: See 3GPP TR 21.905 [1].
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Integration Reference Point (IRP): See 3GPP TS 32.101 [3].

user: See 3GPP TR 21.905 [1].

subscription: See 3GPP TR 21.905 [1].

Subscription management: See 3GPP TR 32.140 [5].

Subscription Profile: See 3GPP TR 32.140 [5].

Subscription Profile Component: See 3GPP TR 32.140 [5].

3.2 Abbreviations

For the purposes of the present document, the following abbreviations apply:

2G Second Generation Mobile3G Third Generation Mobile

API Application Programming Interface
ASP Application Service Provider
AuC Authentication Center
B2B Business to Business

CS Circuit Switch

EIR Equipment Identity Register
GTT Global Text Telephony
GUP Generic User Profile
HE Home Environment
HLR Home Location Register
HSS Home Subscriber Server
IMS IP Multimedia Subsystem

IRP Integration Reference Point (3GPP TS 32.102 [4])

ISP Internet Service Provider
NPDB Number Portability Data Base
NRM Network Resource Model

OAM Operations, Administration and Maintenance

OSA Open Services Access
OSF Operations System Functions
OSS Operations Support System

PS Packet Switch

SLA Service Level Agreement SOM Service Operation Management

SP Service Provider

SuM Subscription Management

TMN Telecommunication Management Network

TR-IRP Trading Partner IRP

UICC Universal Integrated Circuit Card
USIM Universal Subscriber Identity Module
VASP Value Added Service Provider
VHE Virtual Home Environment
VNO Virtual Network Operator

4 Subscription management architecture

3G Telecommunication Management focuses on the most important and strategic contexts in the physical architecture for the management of UMTS. The framework to help define a telecom management physical architecture for a planned UMTS and to adopt standards and provide products that are easy to integrate is defined in 3GPP TS 32.102 [4].

Subscription Management manages Subscription Profile Components stored in network resources for the purpose of providing services to specific subscribers. This is done with an architecture that is consistent with the one specified in 3GPP TS 32.102 [4].

Subscription Profiles represent services and are associated to subscribers that employ these services (3GPP TS 32.140 [5]). To the extent the HSS controls certain services, Subscription Profile Components can be associated with the HSS. Other services, and as a result Subscription Profiles Components, are outside the jurisdiction of the HSS.

4.1 Functional Entities

Functional entities belonging to Subscription Management are described in Figure 1. The figure also contains the actors related to Subscriptions.

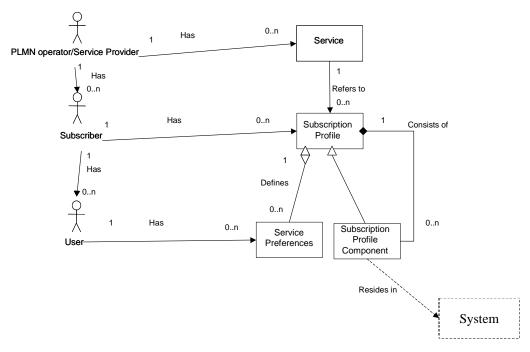


Figure 1: Functional entities in SUM

Actors described in Figure 1 are:

- **Subscriber** (definition See TS 21.905)
- User (definition See TS 21.905)
- **Service Provider** (definition See TS 21.905)
- PLMN Operator (definition See TS 21.905)

The entities described in Figure 1 are:

- **Subscription Profile** (definition See TS 32.140)
- **Subscription Profile Component** (definition See TS 32.140)
- **Service** (definition See TS 21.905)
- **System** (definition See TS 32.102)
- **Service Preferences**: Contains the service preferences chosen for a user. Each user configures his preferences for a particular subscribed service, but only within the limits defined by the Subscription.

Clarifications to the figure:

- A PLMN Operator/Service Provider has one or several Services to offer for Subscribers.
- A Subscriber has one or several Subscription Profiles, where each describes an offered Service.
- A User has one or several Service Preferences, where each describes the user's chosen preferences for the service.
- A Subscription Profile may consist of one or several Subscription Profile Components.

- A Subscription Profile may define one or several Service Preferences.
- A Subscription Profile Component resides in one or several systems

4.2 Interfaces

4.2.1 Application of Itf-N for Subscription management

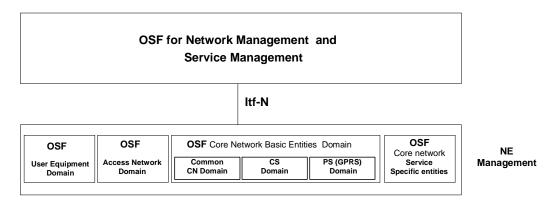


Figure 2: Overview of PLMN Telecom Management Domains and Itf-N (3GPP TS 32.102 [4])

The Itf-N for Subscription management is realized by means of an Integration Reference Point (IRP) as defined in 3GPP TS 32.102 [4].

Operations System Functions (OSF) functionality can be realized in NEs or in the NE Management systems. Subscription management, for this release, is concerned with the OSF functionality contained in the Core Network Basic Entities Domain and specifically that of the Common CN Domain. Subscription Profile Components are located in the NEs OSF's within the Common CN Domain or their NEs OSF's in the NE management systems, and are in either case accessed consistent with the IRP concept. Subscription management OSF's for Network Management and Service Management are located in network- and service management systems.

4.2.2 Relationship of Subscription management (SuM) to GUP

Subscription management IRP Solution Sets may re-use GUP stage 3 where possible. For this purpose, an interpretation of the relationship of Itf-N realisation (for Subscription management) to the GUP reference architecture is explained in Annex A of this specification.

4.3 Overview of IRP

Figures 3 and 4 identify system contexts of the IRP in terms of its implementation, called IRPAgent (3GPP TS 32.102 [4]), and the user of the IRPAgent, called IRPManager (3GPP TS 32.102 [4]).

The IRPAgent implements and supports this (SuM) IRP. The IRPAgent can reside in an Element Manager (EM) or a Network Element (NE) (3GPP TS 32.102 [4]). In the former case, the interface (represented by a thick dotted line) between the EM and the NEs is not the subject of this SuM-IRP.

An IRPManager using this SuM-IRP shall choose one of the two System Contexts defined here, for each NE. For instance, if an EM is responsible for managing a number of NEs, the NM shall access this IRP through the EM and not directly to those NEs.

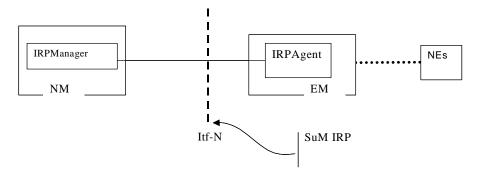


Figure 3: System Context

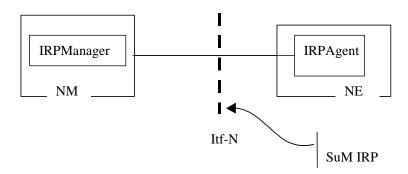


Figure 4: System Context B

4.3.1 IRP Security

The IRP interface is made secure by controlling access to the network and management systems. Operations processes must insure that only authorized personnel have the access authority to retrieve and alter SuM data. Standard protocols used over the interface between the IRPManager and the IRPAgent provide some degree of security. The exact nature of the security is described in the Solution Set for that protocol. In addition to the requirement that the IRPManager and the IRPAgent be secure, most physical links between them are secured as well.

4.4 Methodology

The methodology used to conclude the standard work for SuM shall follow the IRP methodology described in 3GPP TS 32.102 [4]. This subclause describes how to apply that methodology.

4.4.1 SuM Stage 1

SuM Stage 1 is documented in 3GPP TS 32.140 [5].

4.4.2 SuM Stage 2

SuM Stage 2 is documented as follows:

- a) The present document (3GPP TS 32.141) is finalized by identifying the relevant IRPs.
- b) New document TS 32.171 that describes the Requirements for the NRM IRP containing the Information Object Classes (IOCs), attributes, relations etc. for SuM. TS 32.171 shall, where applicable, follow the structure from 3GPP TS 32.621 (Configuration Management (CM); Generic network resources Integration Reference Point (IRP): requirements).
- New document TS 32.172 that describes the Information Service for the Network Resource Model (NRM) IRP

 containing the Information Object Classes (IOCs), attributes, relations etc. for SuM. TS 32.172 shall, where

applicable, follow the structure from 3GPP TS 32.622 (Configuration Management (CM); Generic network resources Integration Reference Point (IRP): Network Resource Model (NRM)).

4.4.3 SuM Stage 3

SuM stage 3 is documented in the following documents:

• TS 32.173 SuM NRM IRP: XXX Solution Set.

Annex A (informative):

Relationship of Subscription management (SuM) to GUP reference architecture

A.1 Relationship of Itf-N to GUP Rp reference point

Figure A.1 illustrates the GUP architecture as defined in 3GPP TS 23.240 [8].

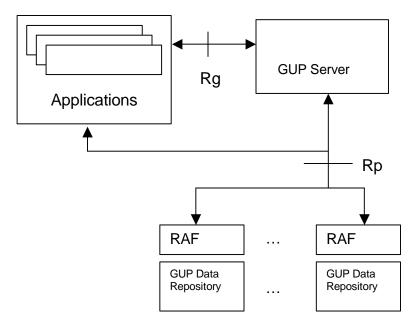


Figure A.1: GUP Reference architecture

The Rp reference point of the GUP reference architecture is developed in such a way as to be compatible with the IRP concept. In the GUP reference architecture, the RAF and GUP Data Repository functionality can be viewed as providing the functionality of the NE OSF's and may be located in the NEs or the NE Management Systems. The Applications provide the Network Management/Service Management OSFs functionality and are located in the network- and service management systems.

Annex B (informative): Change history

Change history											
Date	TSG #	TSG Doc.	CR	Rev	Subject/Comment	Old	New				
Mar 2003	SA_19	SP-030042			Submitted to SA#19 as v1.0.0 for Information	1.0.0					
Sep 2003	SA_21	SP-030405			Submitted to SA#21 as v2.0.0 for Approval	2.0.0					