

Title: Reply LS on 'Request for Information Regarding WLAN Interworking Impacts to UICC applications'
Response to: LS (S3-030213 / T3-030116) on 'WLAN Interworking Impacts to UICC applications' from T3
Release:
Work Item:

Source: SA3
To: T3, SA1
Cc: SA2, EP SCP

Contact Persons:
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Attachments: S3-030198

1. Overall Description:

SA3 thanks T3 for their LS requesting guidance on the impacts to UICC applications for WLAN interworking.

Related to this subject, SA3 has considered the attached contribution (S3-030198) describing some security threats when unmodified SIMs are used in EAP-SIM authentication. This contribution proposes a solution based in the IETF draft "EAP support in smartcards".

Following the discussions, SA3 has stated that the USIM-based authentication EAP-AKA provides a higher level of security than EAP-SIM addressing all these security issues raised with EAP-SIM. The majority of SA3 expressed a strong preference that, if the security provided by EAP-SIM is considered insufficient then operators should move to EAP-AKA using USIMs. It was felt by the majority of SA3 that, if an upgrade of the SIM is needed then one should move to a USIM rather than enhancing the SIM.

However, it was also pointed out that using EAP-AKA, additionally needs HLR/AUCs supporting UMTS AKA. This may be of importance for operators who are not going to migrate all their GSM/GPRS subscribers to UMTS AKA (at least in a reasonable timeframe). For these operators, a secure SIM-based solution may be useful if they have concerns about EAP-SIM security.

In this context, LS (S3-030187/ S1-030546) from SA1 has stated that "There are requests from operators for a secure SIM based WLAN authentication solution". SA3 would like to ask SA1 if this request is confirmed.

From a different perspective, some other aspects (e.g. related to secure storage of parameters as pseudonyms, re-authentication identities, pre-configured realm,...) may also impact to UICC applications. However, these aspects have not been discussed in SA3 yet.

2. Actions:

To T3 and SA3 group.

ACTION: To SA1, please confirm your request about a secure SIM based WLAN authentication solution.
To T3, please note the previous comments.

3. Date of Next SA 3 Meetings:

SA3 #29

15 - 18 July 2003

San Francisco, USA

SA3 #30

07 - 10 Oct 2003

Europe