

Source: GERAN WG2  
Title: LS on introduction of a new release marker in the MS Classmark 3 and MS Radio Access Capability IEs  
Agenda item: 5.2  
Document for: INFORMATION

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3GPP TSG GERAN WG 2 #6bis  
Aix-en-Provence, 22-26 October 2001

G2-010489

Reference LS: NP-010534/G2-010406  
To: TSG CN WG1  
cc: TSG CN  
Date: 26 October 2001

Contact Persons:

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1. Overall Description:

TSG GERAN WG2 has received the request from TSG CN (document **NP-010534**) to confirm the intended use of the proposed new release marker in the *MS Classmark 3* and *MS Radio Access Capability IEs* (document GP-011447/N1-011068).

TSG GERAN WG2 would like to confirm that the intended use of the new release marker is to indicate the capability of the mobile station to support the mandatory protocol features that have been defined up to and including a certain release of the specification. The RR protocol features that TSG GERAN WG2 has in mind for REL-4 level of the new release marker are the *extended uplink TBF* and the *network assisted cell change* procedures.

A discussion took place within TSG GERAN WG2 about the scope of the new release marker, whether it should be restricted to the RR sub-layer of the radio interface or cover also the upper protocol sub-layers of the layer 3 radio protocol stack. No conclusion could be reached. TSG GERAN WG2 would like to invite TSG CN in this discussion in order to finally come to a conclusion.

Moreover, the intention of TSG GERAN WG2 is to apply an incremental approach on the new release marker when there are new mandatory protocol features that the network needs to be aware of. A three-bit field has been suggested, where one value is defined representing a release level of R99 or earlier and one value is defined for REL-4. Six values are yet undefined and may be used in future to represent the release levels corresponding to future releases of the standard, when so is needed.

It should also be noted that a pre-condition for implementing REL-4 is that R99 is implemented. It is the understanding of TSG GERAN WG2 that this is indicated by the 'Revision level indicator', which was introduced in the *MS Classmark 2*, the *MS Network Capability* and the *MS Radio Access Capability* information elements (3GPP TS 24.008). The network should use this release marker to determine the mobile station support of the protocol features that were defined in R99. The particular features that TSG GERAN WG2 associates with the 'Revision level indicator' (R99) are the extension of the *message duplication avoidance* into two bits (operated modulo 4), the mobile station support for *blind handover* and *enhanced measurement reporting*.

It seems that TSG GERAN WG2 and TSG CN might have different understandings of the intended use and the appropriateness for this kind of release markers in the protocol. It is therefore suggested that TSG CN WG1 and TSG GERAN WG2 take the opportunity to bring this issue to the agenda for a possible joint session during the coming working group meetings in Cancun, Mexico, 26 – 30 November 2001.

**2. Actions:**

TSG CN WG1 is kindly asked to consider a joint session with TSG GERAN WG2 where this issue can be brought to the agenda.

**3. Date of Next GERAN and GERAN WG2 Meeting:**

GERAN#7            26 – 30 November 2001            Cancun, Mexico.

GERAN WG2 #7    27 – 29 November 2001            Cancun, Mexico.

**4. Attachments:**

none