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The need for effective communications between the various TSGs and Working Groups in 3GPP is an important element of the work and is essential if there is to be a systematic flow from requirements to implementation.

Both ETSI and 3GPP have effective means of disseminating information both electronically and via liaisons, but if the specifications/information generated in one group is not actively reviewed by other groups that it will impact on then consistency throughout the standardisation process will be jeopardised.

A recent ad hoc meeting between S1 and the QoS group of S2 was held to finally review the specification 22-05 (Services and Service Capabilities). The meeting provoked a considerable volume of useful discussion on its content, both during the meeting and since.

Whilst valuable, this level of discussion does raise the issue of how well this document has been reviewed by the working groups outside S1 since it was approved as version 3 in March 98. It is understood that 3GPP specifications should be based upon the requirements contained in 22-05.

It is therefore proposed that a more formal process of review of requirements documents be introduced when a specification reaches version 3. This review should include participation from the working groups that will base their specifications on these requirements. This process will help to ensure that the requirements documents are suitable to base specifications on and that the specifications will be based on them.