


Source: 
Title: Handling of Early Mobiles
Agenda item: TBD
Document for: Discussion & Approval

1 Introduction

Discussion on “Handling of Early UE” has been ongoing in different TSGs for a long time. However, there is not yet a decision on the release, for which the mechanism is applicable for.

The intent of this contribution is to provide a proposal for TSG SA to make a decision on the release.

2 Discussion

It is the common understanding within 3GPP that it is not possible, today, to test the R99 terminals against all R99 features. However, it is not possible for many operators to hold back the deployment of terminals until they are fully tested against all features. It is quite likely that there will be R99 terminals, in the field, with bugs that will only be detected when these untested features are turned on. Thus, it is clear that the mechanism for Handling of Early Mobiles is needed for support in R99. The support for this mechanism is needed in terminals as well as the network nodes.

Also, it is likely that faults may be introduced which require the same mechanism as proposed by this “Handling of Early UEs”, in subsequent releases of 3GPP. Thus, the support for this mechanism is expected also in the subsequent releases of terminals and network nodes.

Many operators expect the mechanism to be available in the early (e.g. R99) releases of terminals and network nodes. However, from commercial and contractual perspective, some vendors have expressed concerns with the inclusion of this correction mechanism within early releases e.g. R99.

3. Proposal

From the discussion above, it can be seen that

- a) the mechanism might be needed for all releases
- b) many operators have requirement to have this mechanism in early releases e.g R99., of terminals and network nodes
- c) some vendors have concerns, from commercial and contractual perspective, to include this mechanism in early releases

In view of the above, it is proposed that TSG SA should discuss and agree the “Handling of Early UE” as a release independent mechanism. If agreement can be reached, ‘3’ will produce the required CR for TS 23.195 in the next SA2 meeting.

4. Conclusion

In order to allow for easy implementations across whichever release an operator or vendor may choose, the “Handling of Early UE” mechanism should be a release independent feature.

It is therefore, proposed that TSG SA discuss and approve the Release Independence of “Handling of Early Mobiles” and inform other groups of 3GPP, of this decision.