

Title: Proposal to handle early mobiles
Source: Alcatel, Fujitsu, Orange
Document for: Discussion
Agenda:

1. Introduction

During RAN #15 there was considerable debate over a change request proposing to introduce an "interim test marker" into the UE capability information that is sent to the network.

The stimulus for the debate is the concern that mobiles are unable to be fully tested against all of the mandatory features (or combinations of features) in the R'99 standard. Hence when one of the un-tested features is "switched on" in a network, there is a risk that some mobiles will not work with this feature (or particular combination of features).

Source companies have reviewed the list of candidate proposals in RP-020449 and would like to state our position that they are in favour of 4.10; Introducing UE indications (hooks) that can be utilised later.

This proposal means that hooks will be added to appropriate RRC messages which can be used in future to assist in the handling of problems arising in UTRAN/UE interworking. The meaning, format and extendibility of these hooks should be further discussed and agreed in the relevant 3GPP groups.

2. Our Proposal for Introducing UE indications (hooks) that can be utilised later

Our proposal is that the UE indications (hooks) are used because it has a number of benefits over the other candidate methods.

1. The proposed solution is one of the backward compatible ones.
2. It guarantees that the meanings of the values of the bits in the extension will be fully standardised for the Uu interface. This can be further elaborated within RAN2 where the expertise resides.
3. The proposed solution allows the UTRAN to be provided with the UE indication in the earliest phase of the RRC connection.
4. This solution is not exclusive of the use of IMEI-SV to handle Non Access Stratum issues.
5. This solution minimizes RNC impacts, because it eliminates the need to handle specific behaviour per UE vendor and per software release.

In addition, the above source companies are not fully convinced at present of the necessity of introducing 'IMEI-SV' because it could lead to complicated behaviour in the RNC.