

T1P1

Wireless/Mobile
Services and Systems

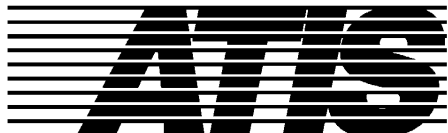
A Technical Standards Committee
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To: 3GPP RAN3

CC: 3GPP RAN

From: T1P1

Re: Addition of ANSI lower layer protocols to Iu-related interfaces

T1P1 has identified a North American requirement to allow ANSI protocols to be used at the Iu lower protocol layers (signaling transport and physical layers). Currently, only the ITU protocols are referenced in the various Iu-related interface specifications.

The UMTS Iu and Iur interfaces will vary depending on protocol compliance with the ANSI or the ITU version for the signaling transport layers. There are several reasons why the option of lower layer ANSI protocols are required in North America. First, the general requirement of T1P1 is to use North American standards in all open interfaces, specifically because there must be a common look and feel for the protocol stacks in terms of monitoring, data correlation and maintenance. Second, North American networks currently support the use of ANSI narrowband SS7 in the A-interface for GSM. The core network node specifications (e.g., for MSC and SGSN) already support ANSI interfaces for MAP and ISUP. Third, shared RNC with MSCs in a pool (also known as Iu-flex) will require a common Iu protocol stack at all RNC-MSC interfaces for better network management.

T1P1 requests that the relevant 3GPP specs be updated to provide the option for ANSI SS7 transport layers (SCCP, MTP3b, SSCF-NNI) in the UMTS Iu and Iur interfaces and for an ANSI physical layer in the UMTS Iu, Iur, and Iub interfaces. Such updates should include all 3GPP releases back to and including R99.

Regards,

Mark Younge, Chairman T1P1