Technical Specification Group Services and System Aspects ***TSGS#17(02)0619***
Meeting #17, Biarritz, France, 9 -12 June 2002

Source: MCC (Adrian Scrase)

Title: Report of Support Team activities

Document for: Information

Agenda Item: 10

1 Introduction

This report covers the period between TSG#16 and TSG#17 and contains detailed information concerning the implementation of TSG#16 results.

2 The Support Team

2.1 MCC Departures

The departure of **Carolyn Taylor** and **HoCheol Kim** was announced in the MCC report to TSG#16 and these departures have now taken place. Likewise for **Hans van der Veen** and **Shinobu Ikeda** whose departure will take place by the end of September.

2.2 MCC arrivals

The arrivals reported in detail to TSG#16 are now all in post (Claude Arzelier, Joern Krause and Tsukasa Sasaki).

With the departure of HoCheol Kim, TTA have now provided a replacement expert. **Sang-Ui Yoon (KT ICOM)** will join the team shortly once the necessary administrative arrangements have been completed. His photograph is provided below. Since his name is difficult for many to pronounce properly he has agreed to be known as **Tom** instead.

Sang-Ui Yoon (aka Tom) (KT ICOM)

2.3 MCC future Vacancies

With the changes detailed above, MCC is at full strength with all Working Groups receiving dedicated support. It is not expected that any further vacancies will arrive before the year end.

2.4 Organization of MCC

The figure given below shows the allocation of resources to each entity within 3GPP and is a snapshot taken on 30 July 2002. It can be seen that Sang-Ui Yoon will be deployed in supporting SA2 which will enable Alain Sultan to devote more effort into managing the project plan and work programme. There will be a soft handover of responsibilities over the coming months. It should also be noted that Susanna Kooistra is now on maternity leave until the end of this year.

This chart is regularly maintained and the latest version may always be obtained from the 3GPP website at http://www.3gpp.org/

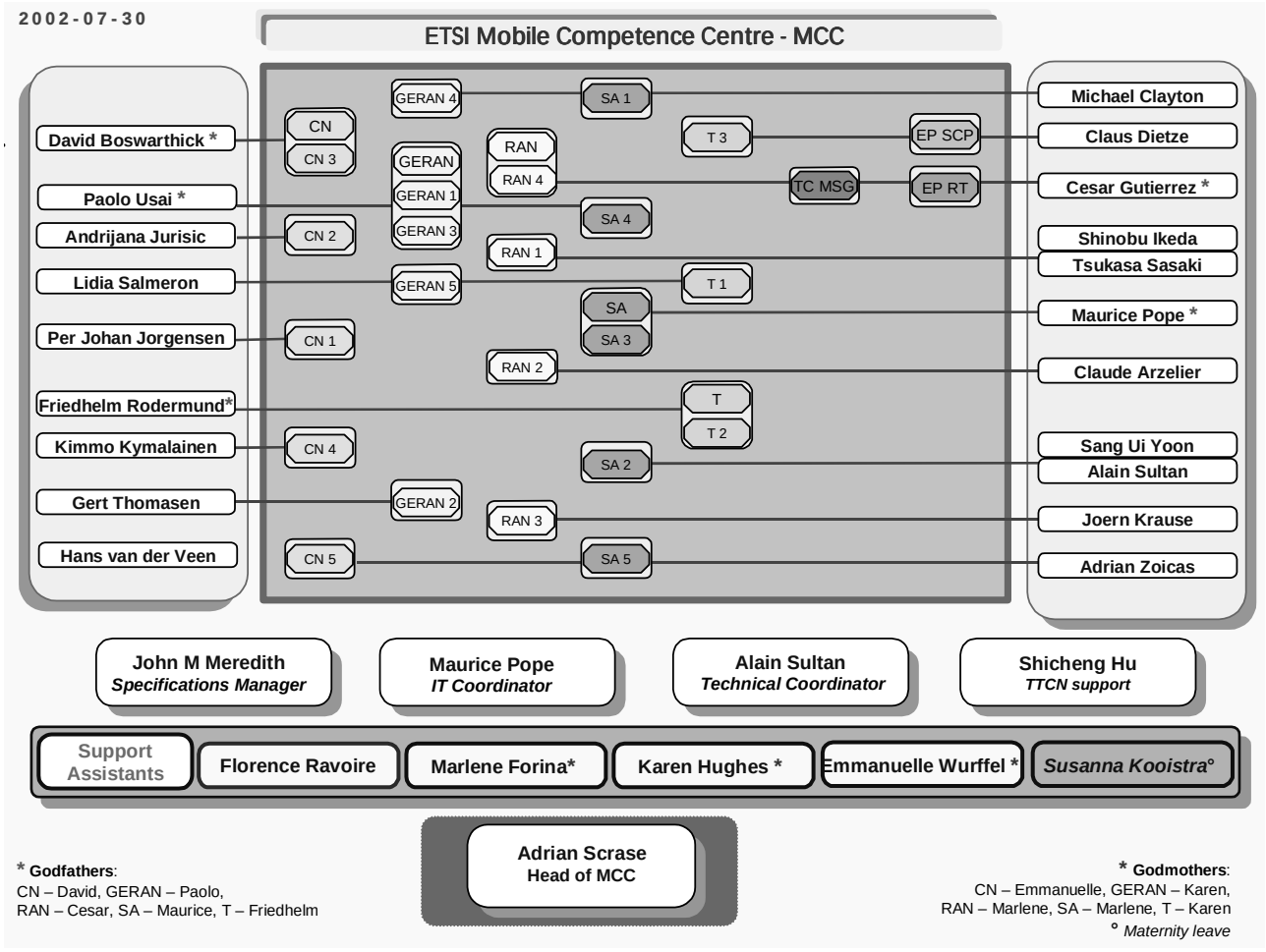

Figure 1: MCC Organizational Chart

3 Statistics and targets

3.1 Interesting statistics

At the start of TSG#17, MCC were managing **2479** active specifications. The distribution of those specifications looks as follows:

CLASSIFICATION	NUMBER OF ACTIVE SPECS
Phase 2	182
Release 96	201
Release 97	219
Release 98	280
Release 99	442
Release 4	520
Release 5	559
Release 6	76
TOTAL SPECIFICATIONS	**2479**

It is expected that approximately **230** new versions of specifications will result from TSG#17.

The number of approved change requests for these specifications continues to be high. When looking at the trend of approved change requests across the different 3GPP Releases the following picture emerges at the start of TSG#17.

CLASSIFICATION	CRs in 1999	CRs in 2000	CRs in 2001	CRs in 2002	TOTAL
Rel 99 Specifications	1408	4400	2266	634	**8708**
Rel-4 Specifications		374	2807	1241	**4422**
Rel-5 Specifications		27	620	1432	**2079**
Rel 6 Specifications				15	**15**
TOTAL	**1408**	**4801**	**5693**	**3322**	**15224**

It is expected that approximately **1500 CRs** will have been approved during the TSG#17 session (including the results of TSG GERAN#11).

3.2 MCC performance

The arrival of Release 5 has caused a large increase in the workload of MCC and this increasing trend as already been reported to the TSGs. The chart below shows the results obtained in the delivery of specifications following TSG#16 and it can be seen that the MCC performance targets have **not** been met. It is now well known that the target is set for 80% of the specifications to be delivered within two weeks and 100% within three weeks. Following TSG#16, **71%** of the specifications were delivered within two weeks and only **87%** within three weeks.

For TSG#17 the same targets have been set for the delivery of specifications, even though they will be hard to achieve. The results will of course be presented to TSG#18.

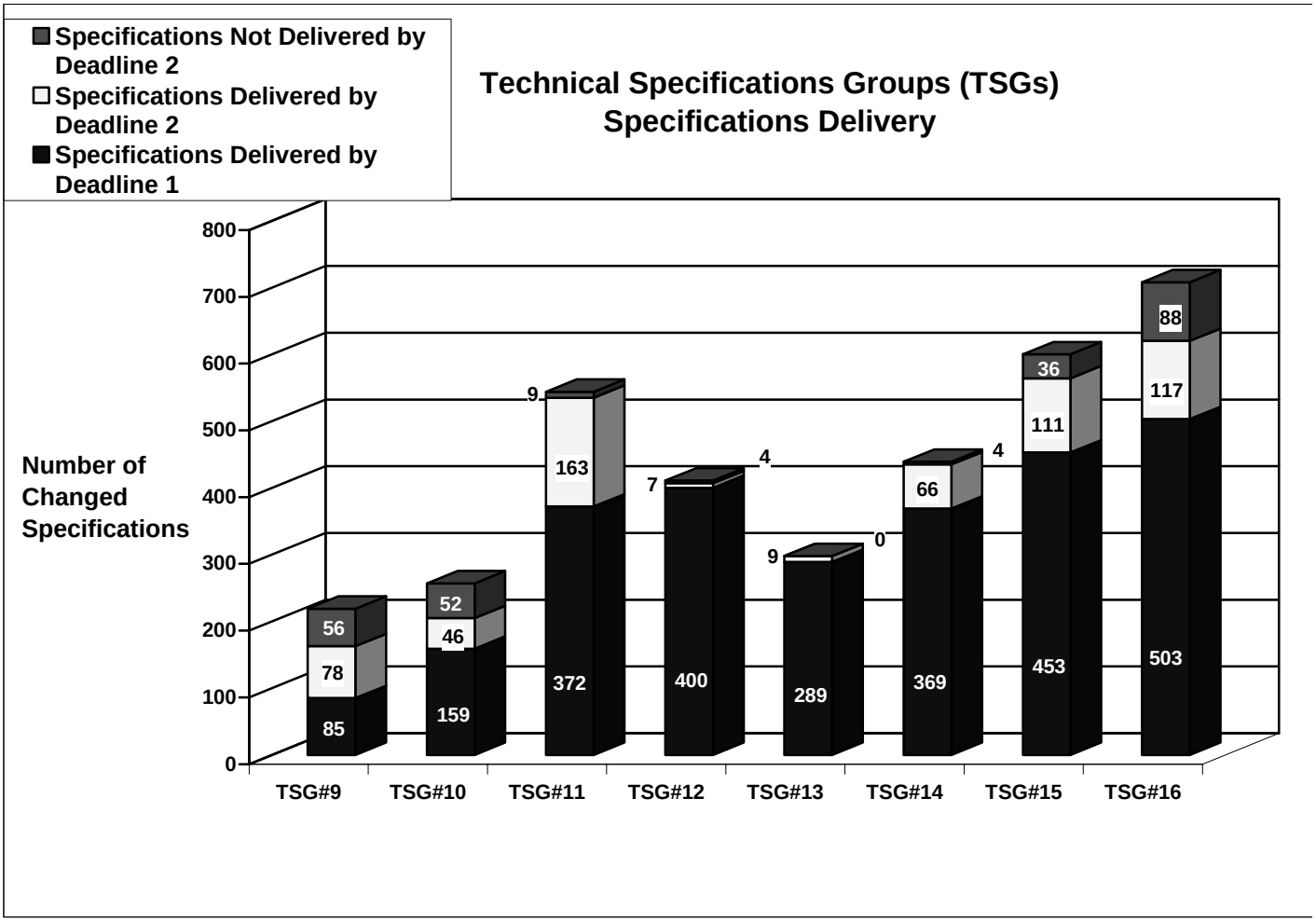

Figure 2: MCC Performance

TSG#14 expressed a clear wish for a quality indicator to be included within the MCC performance measurements.

From the start of monitoring (TSG#14) until the start of TSG#17, 4704 change requests had been implemented by MCC. 19 implementation errors have been detected representing an approximate error rate of 0,4%, **or 4 errors** in **1000 implementations**.

4 MCC Workload

4.1 Specifications Maintenance

Figure 3 below shows the volume of CRs implemented by MCC per semester. It is expected that approximately 1500 CRs will result from TSG#17 and the trend continues to show an increase rather than decrease in workload.

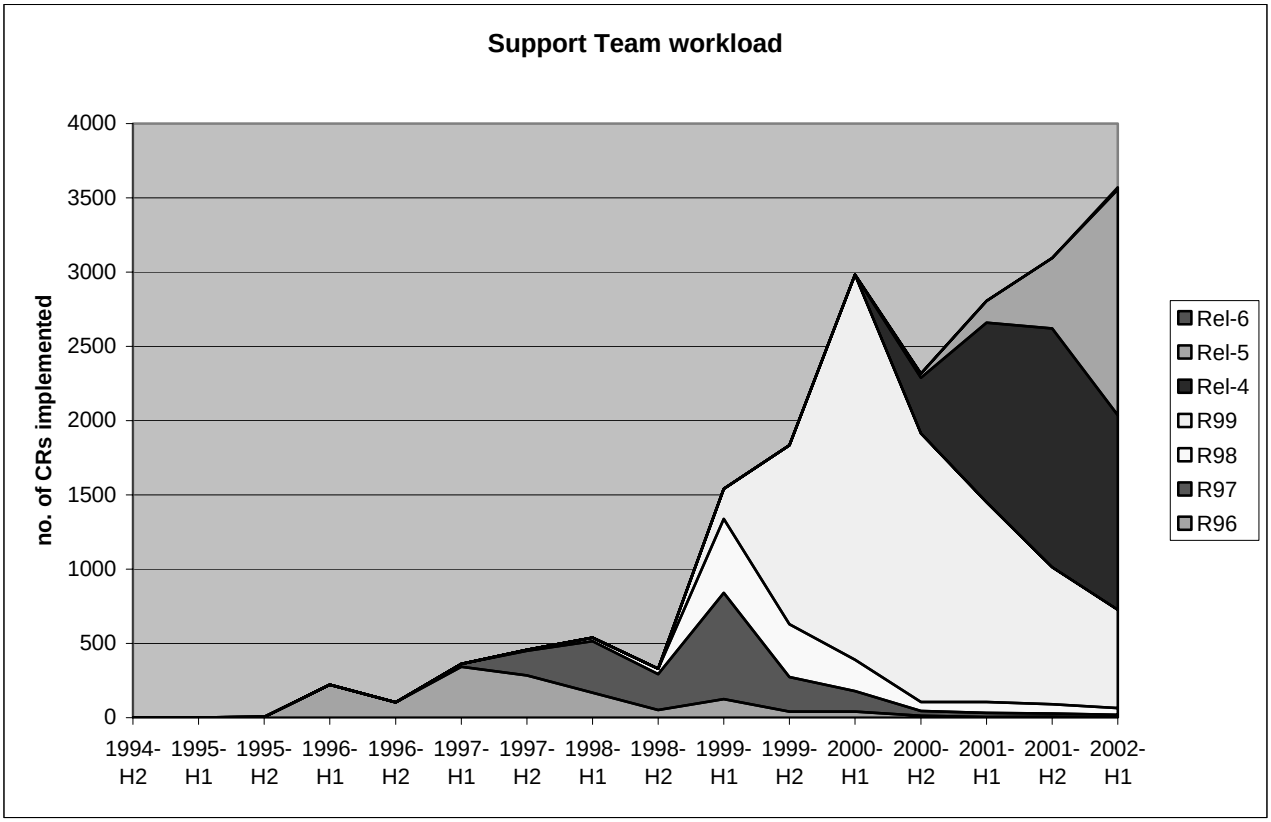

Figure 3: CRs implemented per semester

Figure 4 below shows the CR trends per release and gives an indication of the stability of each release over time. The reducing trend in CRs for both release 99 and release 4 is promising but the absolute number of CRs still remains high.

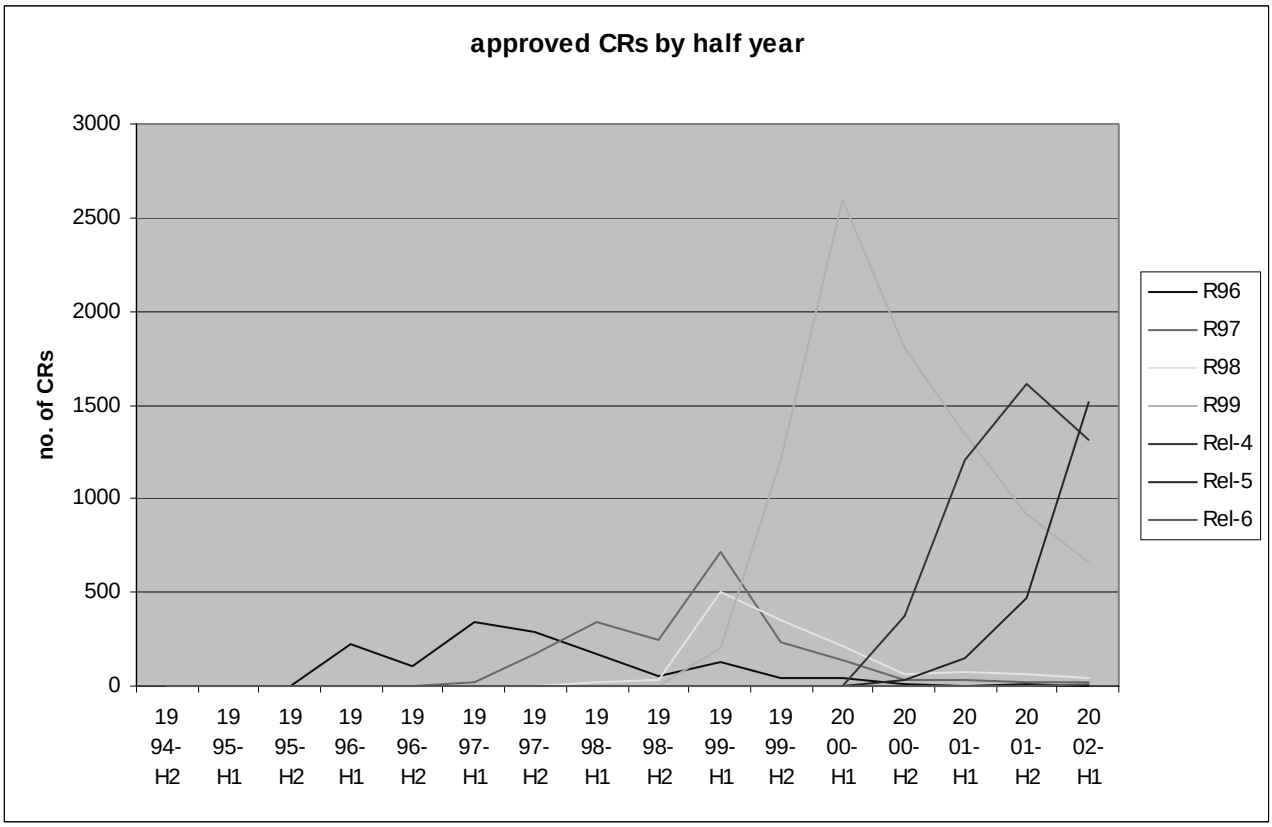

Figure 4: CRs implemented per semester (all CRs)

Current implementations deploy the FDD mode only, yet the specifications include provision for the TDD mode. There is then some interest to see the CR trend for the FDD mode specifications only and Figure 5 below aims to provide that information. Figure 5 shows the CRs per release but excludes those specs specific to the TDD mode and to testing.

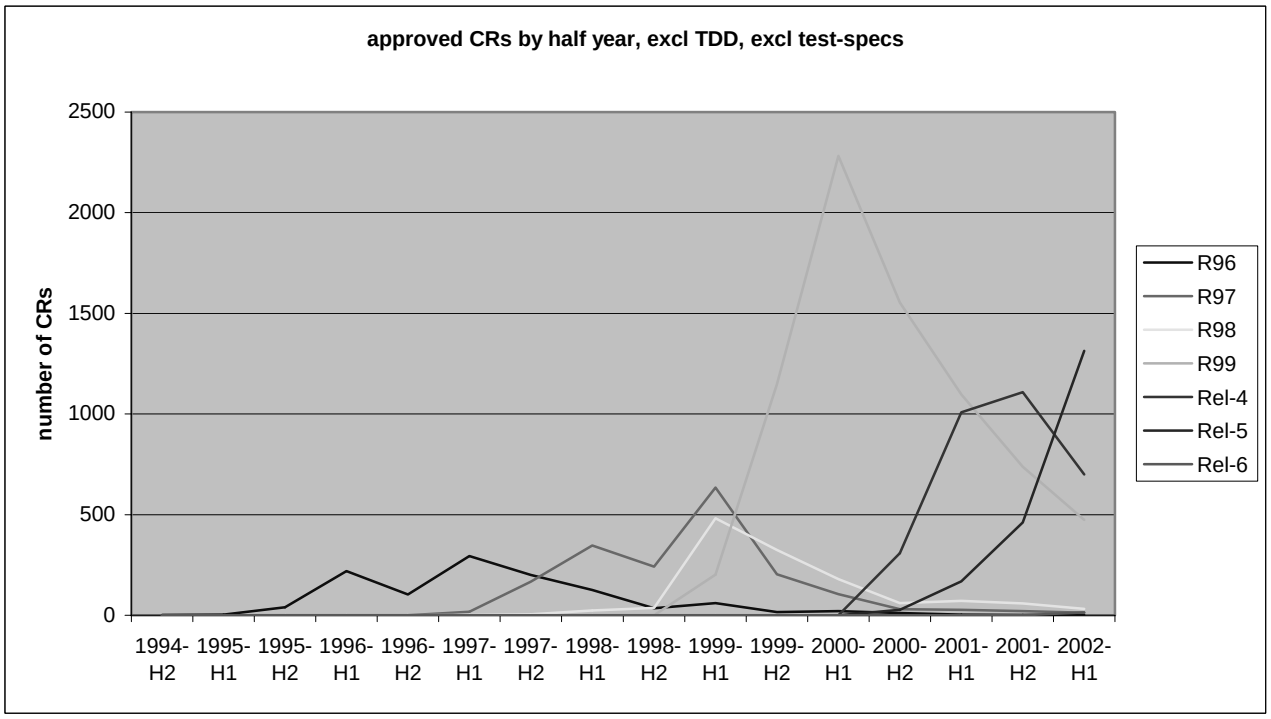

Figure 5: CRs implemented per semester (excluding TDD and test spec)

So as to provide a complete picture, Figure 6 below shows the TDD related CRs (using the same scale as above)

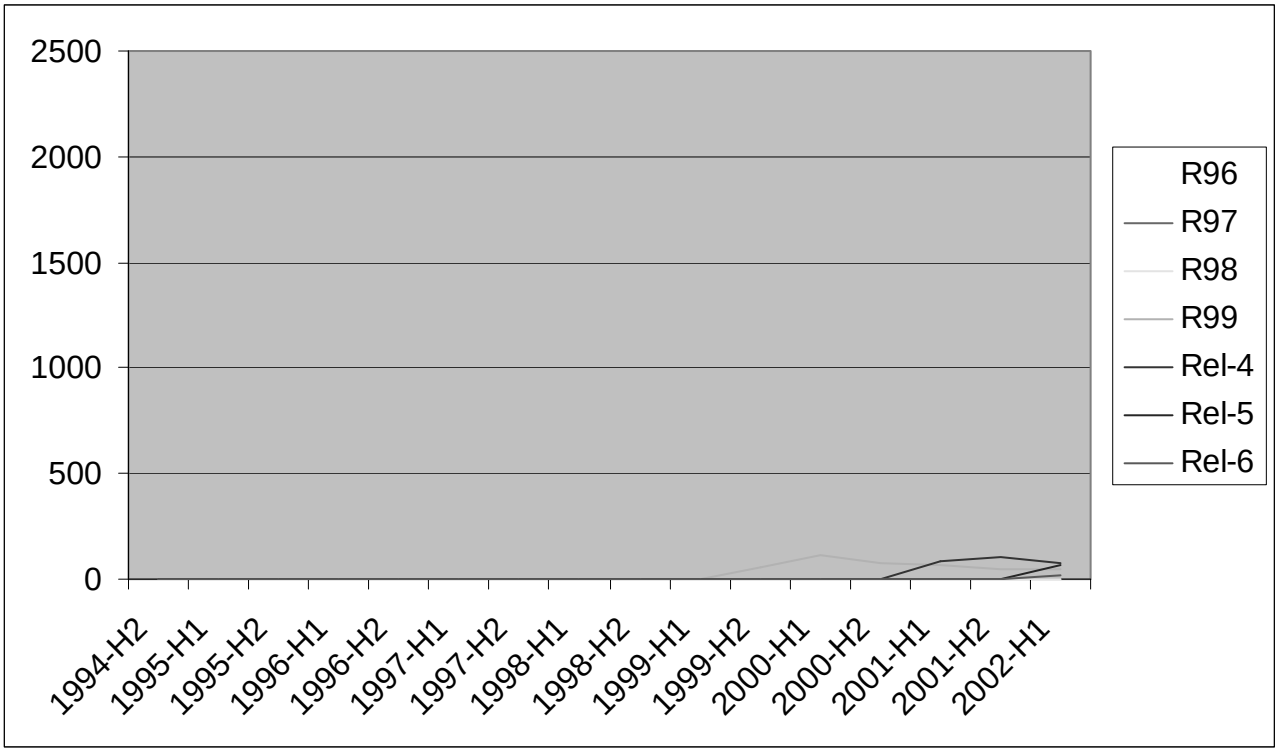

Figure 6: CRs implemented per semester TDD only

Figure 7 shows the CR trend per release for test specifications.

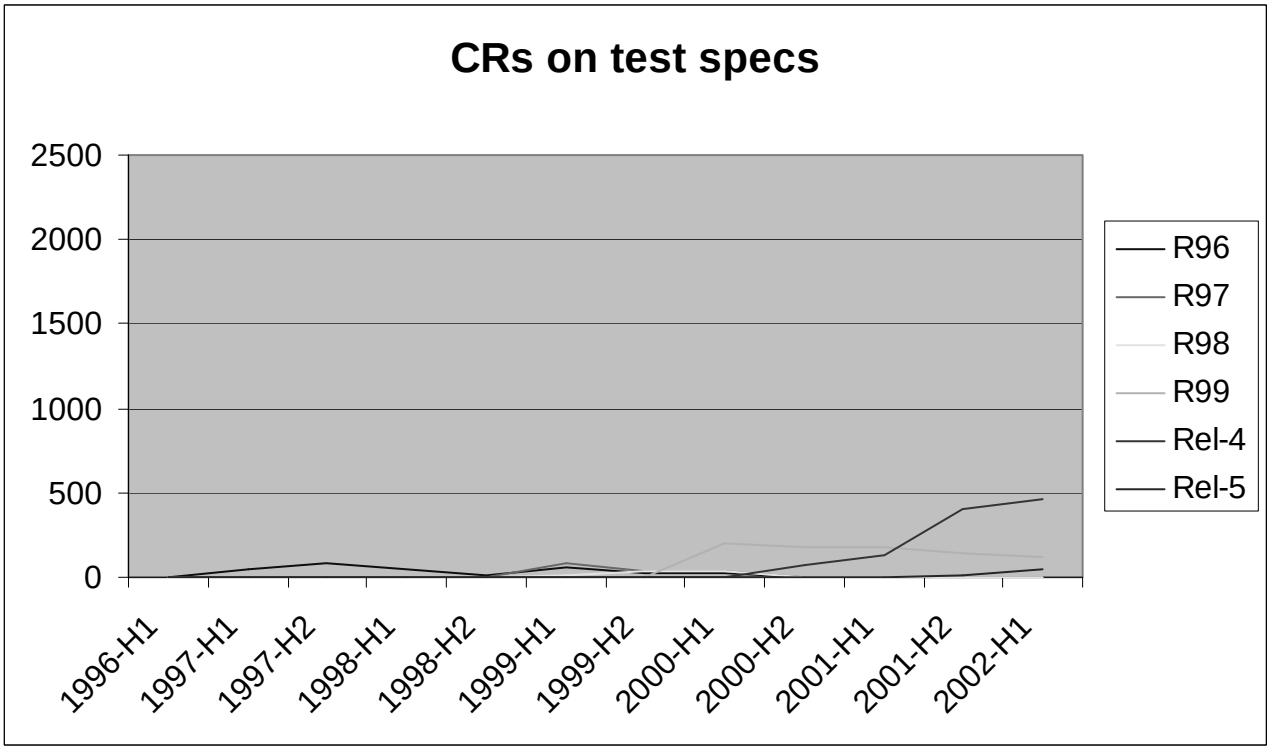

Figure 7: CRs implemented per semester test specs only

6 Working methods

The current practice is for documents to be distributed during TSG meetings both by wireless lan and by CD ROM. In recent meetings the number of delegates making use of the CD ROMs has dropped significantly and it is now estimated that somewhere in the order of ten delegates use this method to obtain the documents. Providing CD ROMs is costly and involves considerable work. If this method can be ceased the money can be saved (and maybe only one MCC Assistant would be needed to support the TSG session). **TSG SA is asked to seek agreement on the cancellation of this service and to indicate the date from which this change can take effect.**

[Note: a single CD ROM will always be prepared as a back up in case of server failure.]

7 Budget restrictions

At TSG#16 the assumption was made that the resources available in 2003 would be the same as those available in 2002. However, the continued downturn of the telecomms industry has led to a review of this situation and it is now quite likely that a budget reduction will be made. This will of course have an impact on the work of 3GPP and the assistance of the TSG leadership will be required in order to set support priorities. **3GPP Members are urged to identify areas where cost savings can be made, for example by changing the 3GPP structure (e.g, merging groups) or reducing the number of meetings held, and to assist in the overall improvement of cost efficiency within the project.**

8 Concluding remarks.

The MCC workload still shows an increasing trend and, whichever way you look at it, that trend is not expected to reverse in the near future. However, It is now inevitable that the MCC resources will be reduced in 2003 and this will result in an additional burden on meeting delegates and the tasks currently being performed by volunteers. MCC will do its part in trying to maintain a high level of service and with the co-operation of 3GPP members it is hoped that this can be achieved.

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