Source: **SA WG3**

Title: **1 CR to 33.200: SMS fraud countermeasures (Rel-6)**

Document for: **Approval**

Agenda Item: **7.3.3**

The following CR has been agreed by SA WG3 and is presented to TSG SA for approval.

TSG SA Doc number	Spec	CR	Rev	Phase	Subject	Cat	Version-Current	SA WG3 Doc number	Work item
SP-040853	33.200	023	1	Rel-6	SMS fraud countermeasures	B	5.1.0	S3-041070	SEC1-MAP

3GPP TSG-SA3 Meeting #36
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Tdoc ⌘S3-041070

CR-Form-v7

CHANGE REQUEST

⌘ **33.200** **CR** **023** ⌘ **rev** **1** ⌘ Current version: **5.1.0** ⌘

*For **HELP** on using this form, see bottom of this page or look at the pop-up text over the ⌘ symbols.*

Proposed change affects: | UICC apps⌘ ☐ ME ☐ Radio Access Network ☐ Core Network **X**

Title:	⌘	SMS fraud countermeasures
Source:	⌘	SA WG3
Work item code:	⌘	SEC1-MAP ***Date:*** ⌘ 16/11/2004
Category:	⌘	**B** ***Release:*** ⌘ Rel-6

Use one of the following categories:
F *(correction)*
A *(corresponds to a correction in an earlier release)*
B *(addition of feature),*
C *(functional modification of feature)*
D *(editorial modification)*
Detailed explanations of the above categories can be found in 3GPP TR 21.900.

Use one of the following releases:

2	*(GSM Phase 2)*
R96	*(Release 1996)*
R97	*(Release 1997)*
R98	*(Release 1998)*
R99	*(Release 1999)*
Rel-4	*(Release 4)*
Rel-5	*(Release 5)*
Rel-6	*(Release 6)*

Reason for change:	⌘	To address the SMS Fraud scenario identified in S3-040581
Summary of change:	⌘	The use of the TCAP handshake for Mobile Terminated SMS Transfer is described.
Consequences if not approved:	⌘	

Clauses affected:	⌘	4, Annex C (New)

Other specs affected:	Y	N			
⌘	Y		Other core specifications	⌘	TS 29.002 CR740R2
		X	Test specifications		
		X	O&M Specifications		

Other comments: ⌘

** first change ***

4 Principles of MAP application layer security

This technical specification defines mechanisms for protecting the MAP protocol at the application layer. The MAP protocol may also be protected at the network layer when IP is used as the transport protocol. However, whenever inter-working with networks using SS7-based transport is necessary, protection at the application layer shall be used.

The security measures specified in this TS are only fully useful if all interconnected operators use them. In order to prevent active attacks all interconnected operators must at least use MAPsec with the suitable protection levels as indicated in this specification and treat the reception of all MAP messages (protected and unprotected) in a uniform way in the receiving direction.

Before protection can be applied, Security Associations (SA) needs to be established between the respective MAP network elements. Security associations define, among other things, which keys, algorithms, and protection profiles to use to protect MAP signalling. The necessary MAPsec-SAs between networks are negotiated between the respective network operators. The negotiated SA will be effective PLMN-wide and distributed to all network elements which implement MAP application layer security within the PLMN. Signalling traffic protected at the application layer will, for routing purposes, be indistinguishable from unprotected traffic to all parties except for the sending and receiving entities.

Protection at the application layer implies changes to the application protocol itself to allow for the necessary security functionality to be added.

The interface applies to all MAPsec transactions, intra- or inter-PLMN.

Annex B includes detailed procedures on how secure MAP signalling is performed between two MAP-NEs.

NOTE: A limited level of MAP message authenticity can be achieved without the use of MAPsec by using a TCAP handshake prior to the MAP payload exchange. Annex C describes the use of the TCAP handshake for mobile terminated SMS transfers (mt-Forward-SM).

**** End of first change ***

**** Last change ***

Annex C (Normative): Using TCAP handshake for Mobile Terminated SMS transfer

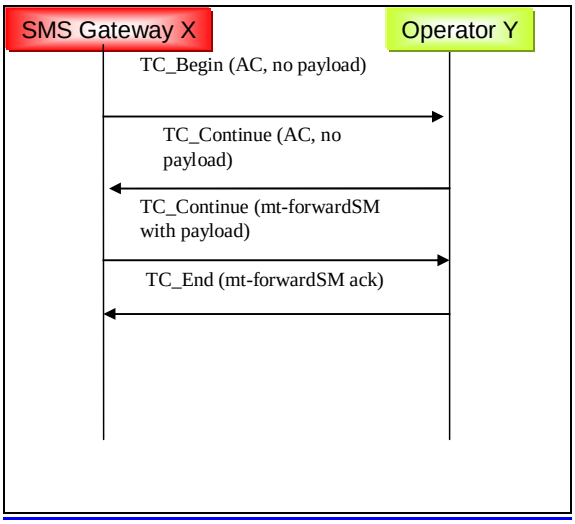

Figure B.1: MAP mt-Forward-SM messages using a TCAP Handshakes

The SMS Gateway operator and the serving node (MSC or SGSN) operator may agree to use the TCAP handshake as a countermeasure against SMS fraud for messages exchanged between their networks (for detailed message flows see TS 29.002 [4]). A limited level of authenticity is provided by following mechanism: If the serving network receives an mt-forward-SM MAP message which uses the TC_Continue to transfer the MAP payload then it is guaranteed that the SCCP calling party address of the (empty) TC_Begin message is authentic, otherwise the first TC-continue message would be sent to the falsified address. The correct message flow is guaranteed by the TCAP transaction capabilities (use of Transaction ID). Matching parts of this SCCP calling party address (country code (CC), national destination code (NDC)) with the SMSC address received in the MAP message, implicitly verifies CC and NDC of the SMSC address.î

Unfortunately there are some ways in which a fraudulent SMS Gateway operator (called the originator in bullets (a) and (b)) may try to circumvent the implicit SCCP address authentication provided by the TCAP handshake.

(a) The originator includes a falsified SMSC address within the mt-forward-SM payload carried by the TC-continue (third message in Figure B.1)

(b) The originator tries to predict the TCAP transaction ID assigned by the serving node, which is to be used within the third message, and spoofs the third message without waiting for the second message. This attack has to be carried out within the right time window.

If TCAP handshake is to be used, the following measure shall be taken within the network of the serving node in order to counteract the spoofing possibilities of a malicious mt-Forward-SM originator.

MEAS-1: The receiving network shall verify if the received SMSC address (in the third message) may be used from the originating SCCP-address.

The following measure may be taken within the network of the serving node in order to counteract the spoofing possibilities of a malicious mt-Forward-SM originator.

MEAS-2: The receiving node may use mechanisms to further enhance the unpredictability of the destination TCAP transaction ID which need to be used within the third message.

NOTE: The combined check (MEAS-1) on SCCP calling party address / SMSC address and destination TCAP Transaction ID makes spoofing of the second TC_CONTINUE (with payload) practically difficult. MEAS-2 is an optional enhancement that could be used to further enhance the resistance these attacks.

The following grouping method may be used for an operator to gradually introduce the TCAP handshake for mt-Forward-SM messages. Define an ëoperator group-1í as a trusted operator group and ëoperator group-2í as an un-trusted operator group. Agree that group-1 uses the TCAP handshake, while group-2 does not use the TCAP handshake. As specified by TS 29.002 [4] this requires that the SMS Gateway operators belonging to group-1 shall either use application context2 or 3 for mt-Forward-SM. The management of the two groups requires that the serving network shall implement a policy table of originating SCCP-addresses for which a TCAP handshake is required.

If the above described grouping method is used then following measure shall be taken at the serving network in order to counteract the spoofing possibilities of a malicious mt-Forward-SM originator that tries to circumvent the policy table checks.

MEAS-3: The serving network shall verify that the originating SCCP address of a first message with a payload (i.e. not using the TCAP handshake) is not from an SMSC-address that shall use the TCAP handshake.

The benefit gained for operators that belong to group-1 is that their SMSC-addresses cannot be spoofed if the policy table has been administrated accurately.

*** End of last change ***