SP-050131

Technical Specification Group Services and System Aspects
Meeting #27, Tokyo, Japan, March 2005

Source: **MCC Team Manager** (John M Meredith)

Title: **Report of Support Team activities**

Document for: Information

Agenda Item: 10

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1   Introduction

The overall message: business as usual. But carry on reading for the details …

2   The Support Team

2.1   Departures and arrivals

There have been several moves and changes since the last report:

Friedhelm Rodermund has left (as reported last time).

Stoyan Baev (ComSquare AG) has been recruited as a contracted expert to act as project manager for the two testing groups, RAN5 (ex-T1) and GERAN3. Stoyan has considerable experience of the production of test specifications, having been chairman of the ETSI DECT working group on testing for some six years.

Hyperlink to where photograph will be when we have got round to taking one:
http://www.3gpp.org/Support/MCC/Stoyan.htm

Stoyan Baev

Gabriele Lenhart has been recruited as an ETSI staff member, and will start in MCC at the beginning of May 2005. She will be project manager for the smartcard activity in ETSI SCP and CT6 (ex-T3). In addition, her PoC knowledge gained from her time as chairman of the OMA PoC group should be an asset to her new colleagues!

Gabriele Lenhart

During the interregnum between Friedhelm's departure and Gabriele's arrival, **Gert Thomasen** – the regular project manager for GERAN2 – has acted for T3. Similarly, **Seung-Don Han** – the regular project manager for CT3 – has seen T2 through its final meeting.

David Boswarthick has left MCC, having been project manager for CN from its earliest days. David is not entirely lost to us, because he remains within the ETSI Secretariat, having joined the Fixed Competence Centre (FCC) to become a member of the support team for the Next Generation Network activity within ETSI TISPAN. Until recently, David also had CN3 under his wing, and latterly SA2. Although we will miss him in 3GPP meetings, David's experience of The 3GPP Way to Enlightenment will be invaluable in TISPAN, and his knowledge of IMS will help avoid unnecessary divergence between the mobile and fixed network communities.

the fixed network

Another aspect of standards work unique to 3GPP has been the structured way that we have managed our large and complex work plan. **Alain Sultan**, freed from his "interim" project managership of T1 by Stoyan's arrival, is now free also to cross the floor to instil a similar process in TISPAN's NGN. He will remain with 3GPP half-time, and will still appear at TSG meetings, performing his usual valuable task of summarizing what the working groups have done and whither they go.

The photograph opposite shows a system developed without the benefit of a well-organized workplan.

Meanwhile, **Michael Clayton**'s burden has been lightened by Stoyan's shouldering of GERAN3, and as I hinted last time, we will make full use of this by his taking over SA3 from Maurice. Michael will continue to project manage for SA1, and the resulting load should keep him out of mischief.

Maurice Pope, meanwhile, will take on the sizeable work of SA2, whilst still providing his accustomed service to TSG SA.

Kimmo Kymalainen, released from ETSI SCP when Gabriele arrives, will have plenty of capacity to take over the secretaryship of TSG CT.

In November 2004, **Susanna Kooistra**, one of MCC's long-standing Assistants – you will have seen her at the present meeting at the reception desk issuing badges, or ballot papers during the vote, or in the secretariat room – decided to reduce her work to four days per week, allowing her to spend Wednesdays at home with her young daughter and not miss too much of the joy of watching her grow up. Cruelly, we reduced Susanna's workload hardly at all, and for two months she can scarcely have noticed the benefit of her shorter hours.

Then, at the beginning of 2005, another long-standing MCC Assistant, **Karen Hughes** was lured away to that dark and mysterious part of the ETSI Secretariat which provides forum hosting services, Forapolis. Needless to say, the combination of Susanna's reduction in hours and the virtual disappearance of Karen has put considerable strains on MCC, and particularly on Susanna, and I must express my sincere gratitude to her and also to the rest of the team for taking on tasks which would normally have been done by Karen. Hopefully we have not neglected too many of the functions which 3GPP delegates and officials have come to expect from MCC.

To replace Karen, **Frances Martin-Isaacs** has recently joined MCC as an Assistant, and is taking over many of Karen's former duties (web site and exploder lists administrator for example) and will also share some of Susanna's duties, allowing Susanna at last to appreciate her reduced hours. You will meet Frances supporting the next TSG meetings in Canada.

Frances Martin-Isaacs

Well, this is the photograph she herself provided when I asked her for one. In my opinion, it is *not* a good likeness.

You can see flattering photographs of the whole support team via the links at http://www.3gpp.org/Support/MCC_photos.htm.

Those who have not run out of fingers and toes for counting on will realize that MCC has suffered, in consequence of the above manoeuvres, a net loss of half a person. Considering the net disappearance of one TSG and one WG, we are confident that we can still support you to the level you have come to expect. It was for that reason that we decided not to recruit a part time expert as a result of the recent call. (The closure of T2 was foreseen, though not perhaps quite as soon as it did in fact come to pass.)

2.2   Organization of the Support Team
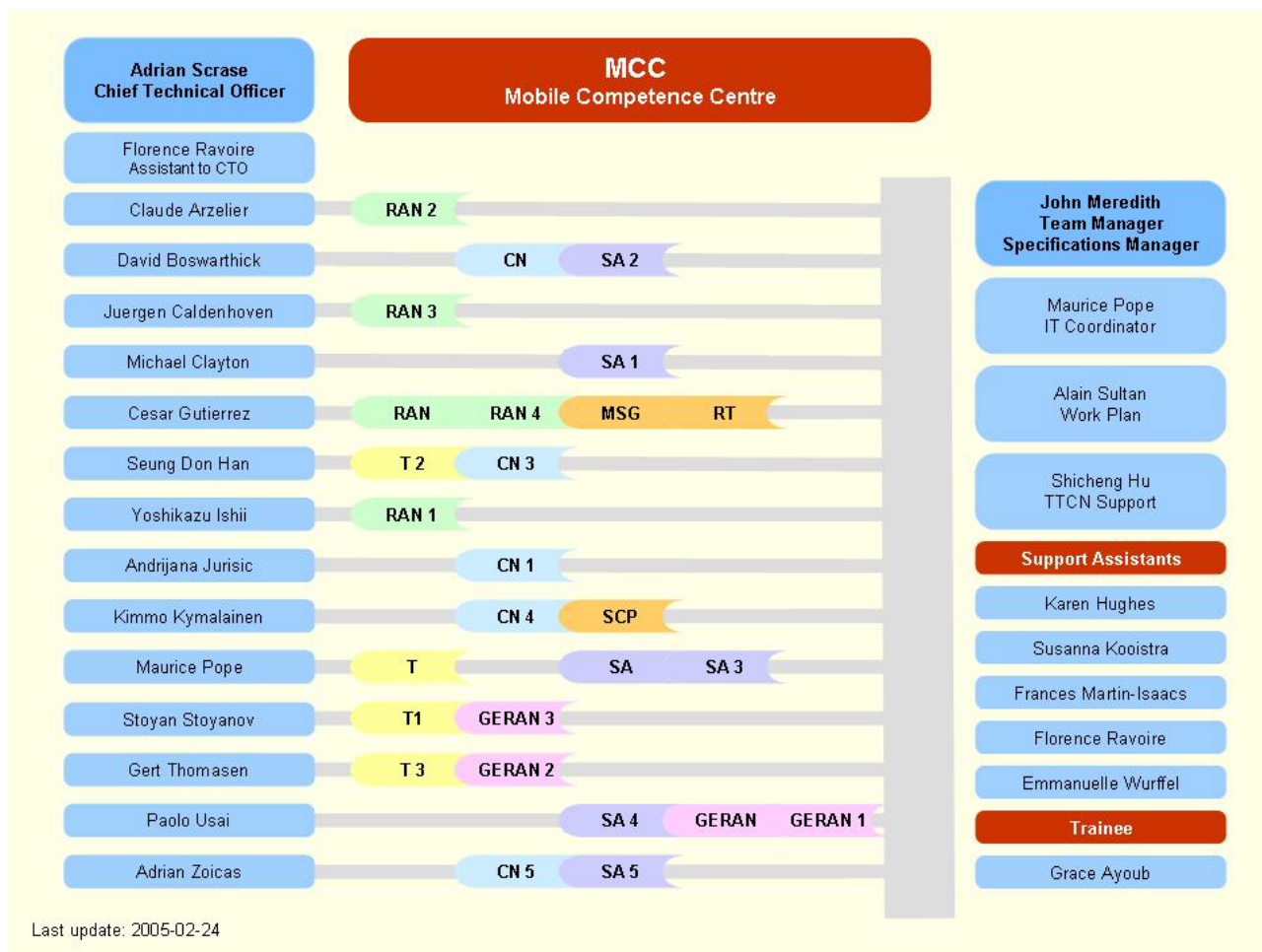
A picture is worth a thousand words:

Figure 1: MCC organizational chart

But as you can see, this will need an update to remove T2 and to add the new TSGs; and a further update in a month's time when Gabriele join us. This chart can be seen at http://www.3gpp.org/Support/mcc.ppt.

3   Statistics and targets

3.1   Interesting statistics

The distribution of active specs amongst the various Releases was, prior to the start of the current TSG meetings, as follows:

Table 1: Specs by Release

CLASSIFICATION	NUMBER OF ACTIVE SPECS
GSM Phase 1	122
GSM Phase 2	182
GSM Phase 2+ Release 96	201
GSM Phase 2+ Release 97	220
GSM Phase 2+ Release 98	282
GERAN / UTRAN Release 99	445
GERAN / UTRAN Release 4	518
GERAN / UTRAN Release 5	580
GERAN / UTRAN Release 6	790
GERAN / UTRAN Release 7	45
TOTAL SPECIFICATIONS	**3385**

from query 2002-04-12_live-specs-per-Rel

It is expected that **270** new versions of specifications will result from CRs TSGs#26.

A further **19** specs have been brought under change control at this meeting.

Following the freezing of Release 6 at the December meetings, a record number – nearly **800** – of specifications has been made available for publication by the partner SDOs. This compares with the previous record following the freeze of Release 5 of about 370 specs.

The table and chart below show the number of approved change requests for these specifications across the different 3GPP Releases in each year of the 3GPP's life so far (not including the present meeting).

Table 2: CRs by year and Release

Release / Year	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005 to date (excluding present round of meetings)	TOTAL
R99	1408	4398	2266	1003	581	512	6	**10174**
Rel-4	0	376	2828	1900	690	257	7	**6058**
Rel-5	0	27	644	3281	2840	2162	10	**8964**
Rel-6	0	0	0	171	1088	2457	213	**3929**
Rel-7	0	0	0	0	1	20	0	**21**
TOTAL	**3407**	**6801**	**7739**	**8357**	**7203**	**7412**	**236**	**29146**

At the present meeting, the CRs approved against each Release and in each Category are shown in the table below.

Table 3: Approved CRs at the present meeting, by Release

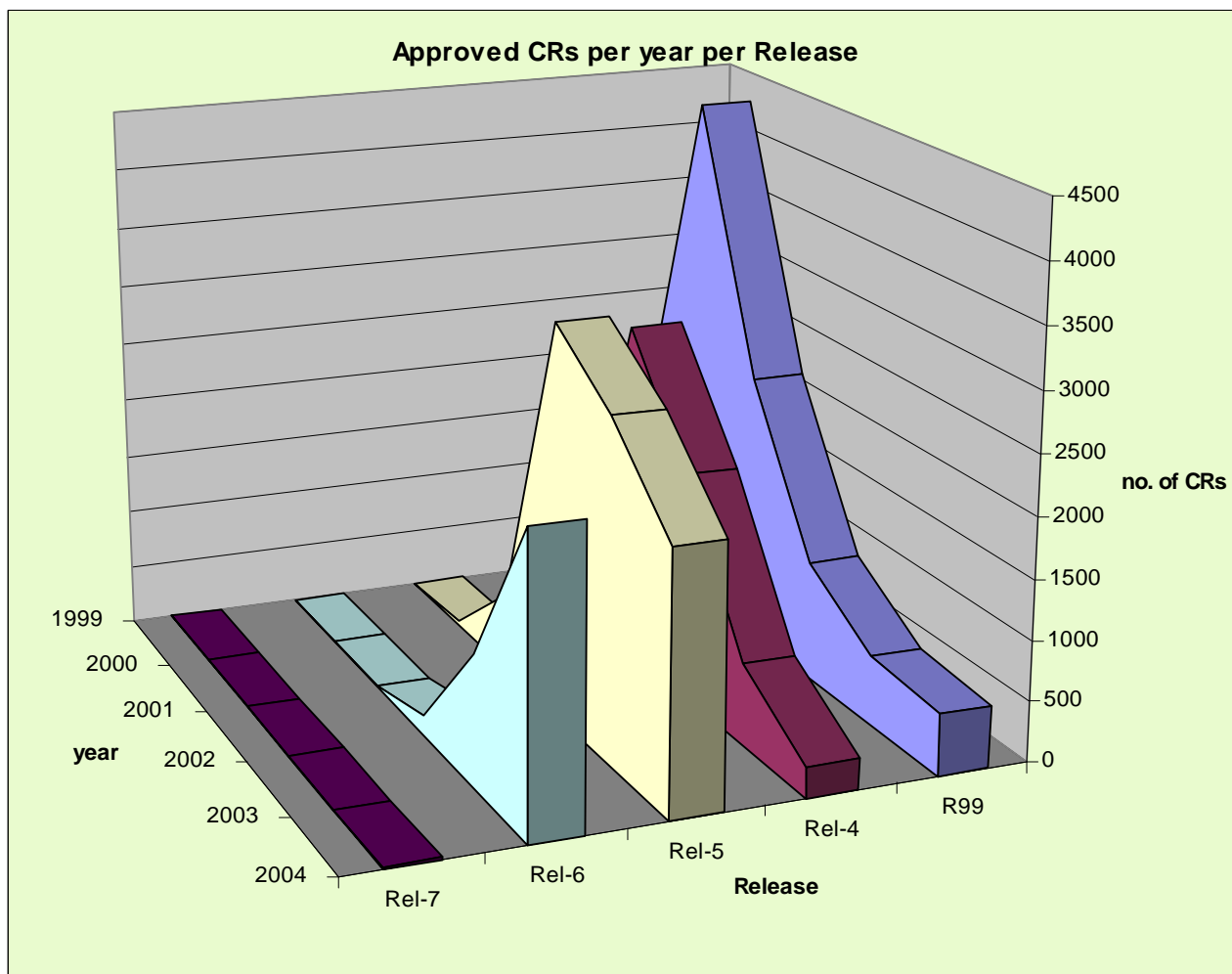| Phase	A	B	C	D	F	Total CRs
-					1	1
R99					21	21
Rel-4	9	1			21	31
Rel-5	20	42	6	12	368	448
Rel-6	116	74	39	15	452	696
Rel-7	9	6	1	1	4	21
Total	**154**	**123**	**46**	**28**	**867**	**1218**

Figure 2: 3GPP CR evolution from 1999 to 2003

3.2   MCC performance

The chart below shows the speed of implementation of CRs. Performance is generally within the limits agreed with the TSGs (90% of revised specs available within two working weeks of the end of the SA meeting, the remaining 10% within a further week, allowing for resolution of implementation queries not identified earlier).
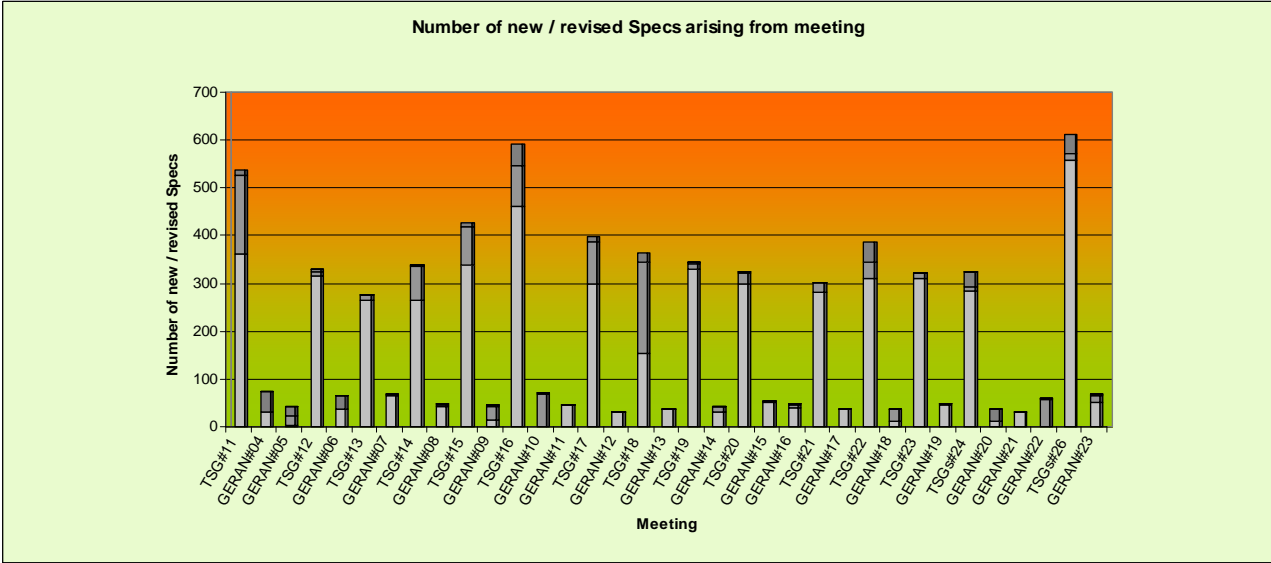
Figure 3: MCC spec production performance

The chart below shows the cumulative error rate for the implementation of CRs. It can be seen that the error rate remains stable at consistently under 3,5 errors in 1000 implementations (0,35%). Whilst every error is inconvenient for somebody somewhere, we believe that the present figure is acceptable. Doubtless the TSG and WG chairmen and delegates will tell us if they consider it not to be so!
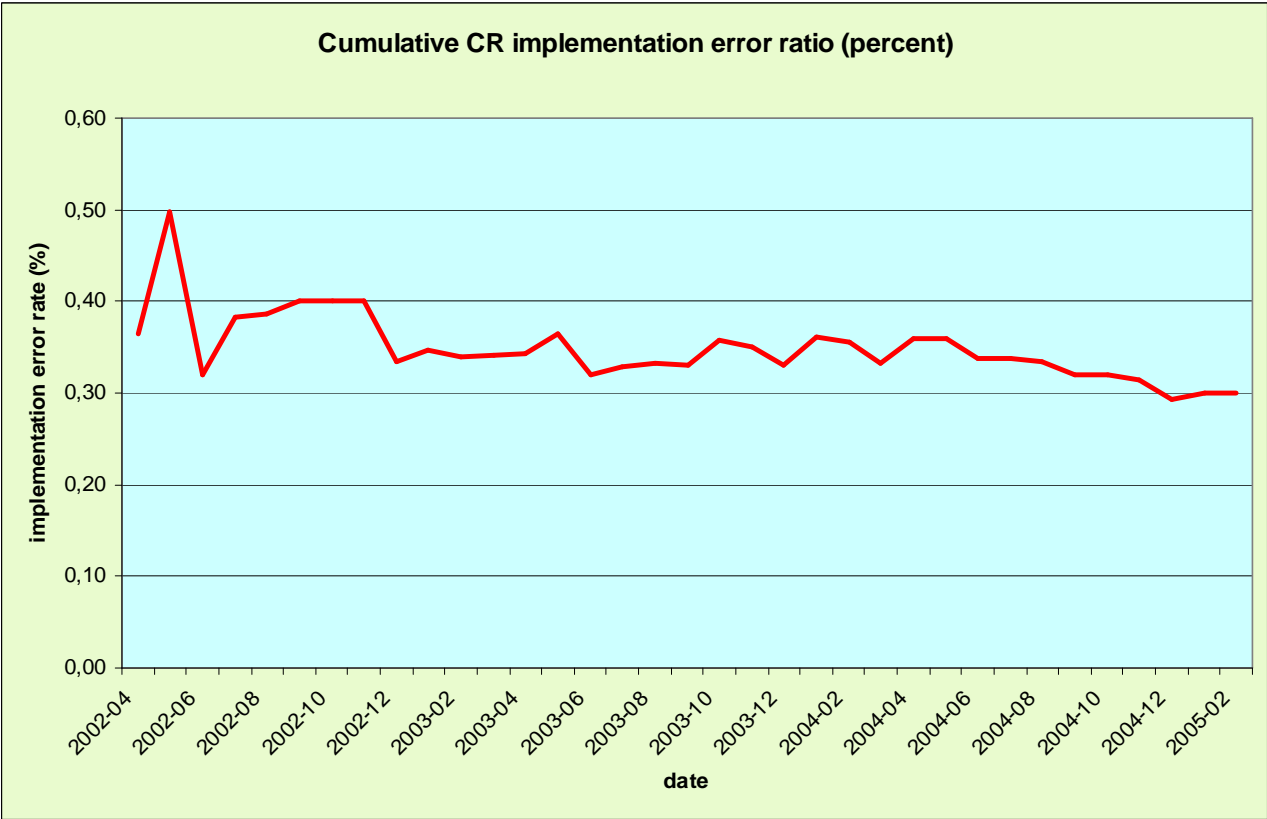
Cumulative CR implementation error ratio (percent)

[Figure: line chart. X-axis labeled "date" spanning 2002-04 to 2005-02. Y-axis labeled "implementation error rate (%)" from 0,00 to 0,60. Red line starts around 0,36, peaks at 0,50 in 2002-06, then gradually declines to about 0,30 by 2005-02.]

Figure 4: CR implementation error rate

4   Release Stability

The charts below show the rolling average of the number of Change Requests per Release but excludes Category A (mirror) CRs. The charts show the continued reduction in the number of CRs for Release 99, Release 4 and Release 5 which implies an increased level of stability. As expected, there was a peak of Rel-6 CRs at the freezing point..
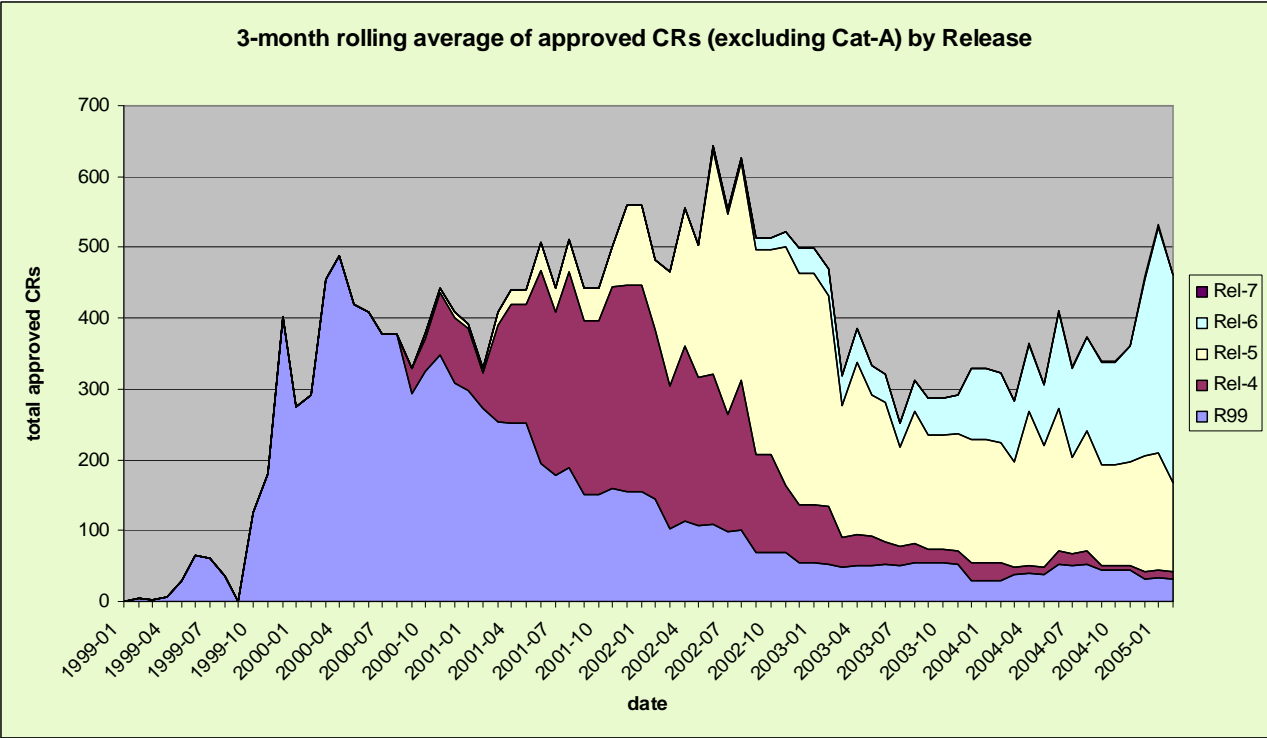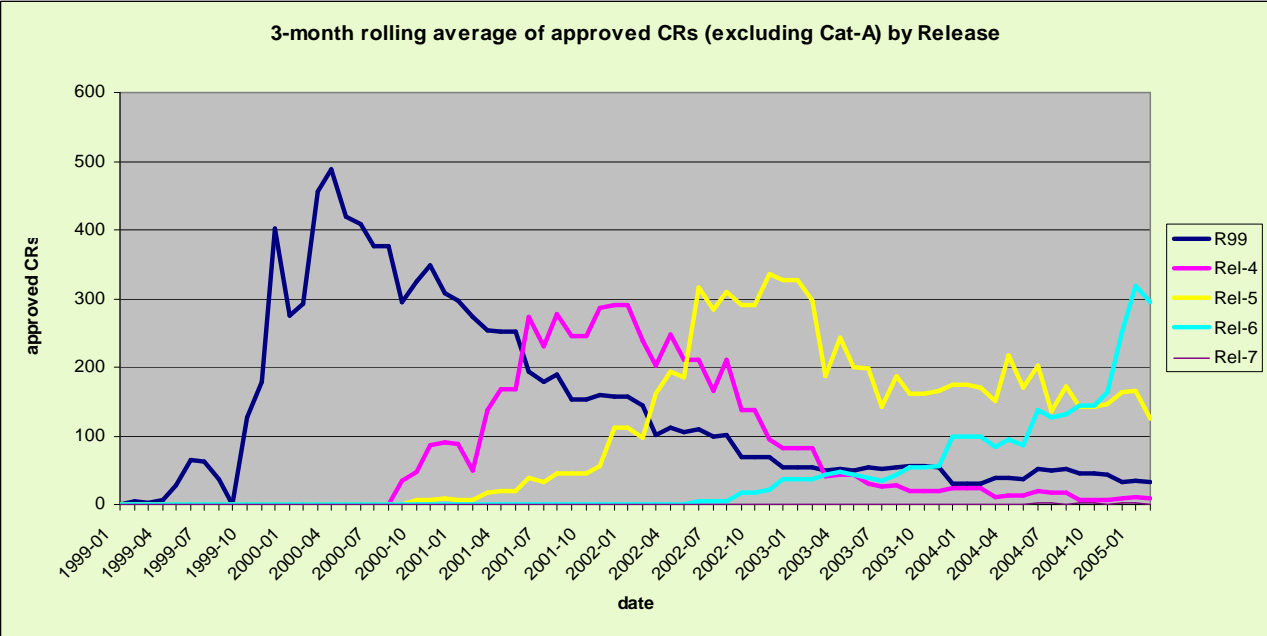
Figure 5: CR statistics (cumulative)

Figure 6: CR statistics

The figure below shows the overall workload on the Support Team related to CR implementation.

Support Team workload (CRs implemented)

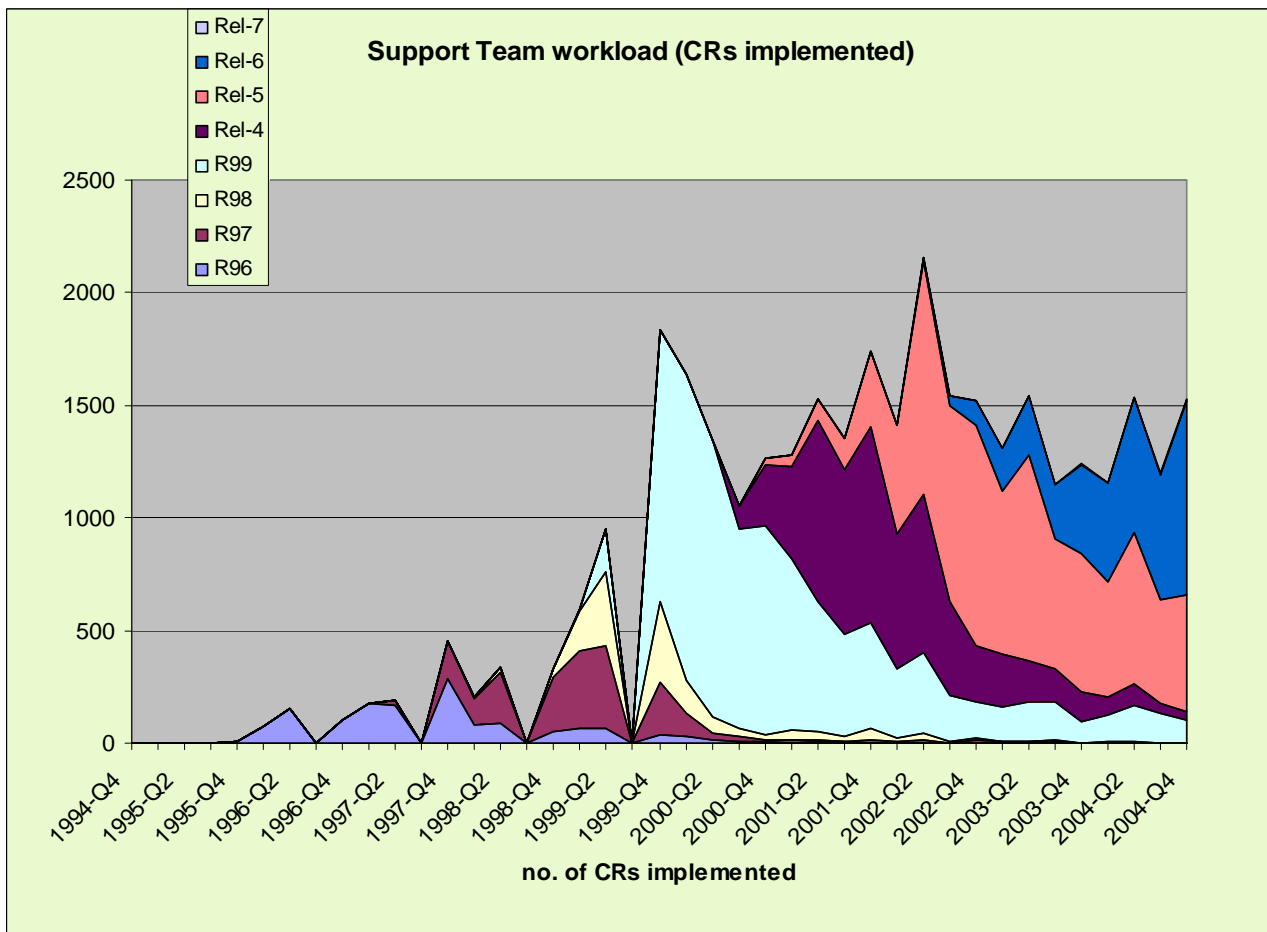Legend: Rel-7, Rel-6, Rel-5, Rel-4, R99, R98, R97, R96

Figure : CR implementation workload

5   Concluding remarks

We hope that the general movement of support personnel has not caused and will not cause too much disruption in the work of the technical groups. I believe that sometimes, "a change is as good as a rest", and it is in the long run beneficial to both the individual project managers and the groups they serve to rotate duties from time to time. The result should be a spreading – though not a dilution – of our skills and experience, to our mutual benefit. By May, we will be once again fully staffed, and we look forwards to another productive and innovative year of 3GPP.

See you in Canada in June.