

3GPP TSG-CN1 Meeting #30
San Diego, California, USA, 19 – 23 May 2003

Tdoc N1-030896

Title: LS on transport of unknown SIP signalling elements
Release: Rel-5
Work Item: IMS-CCR

Source: CN WG1
To: SA WG2, SA WG3, SA WG5
Cc:

Contact Person:

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Attachments:

1. Overall Description:

CN WG1 wants to inform, that CN WG1 has agreed to add a statement to 3GPP TS 24.229, which mandates network entities in the IM CN subsystem, which act as SIP proxies, to be transparent for the following SIP signalling elements:

- unknown SIP messages;
- unknown SIP header fields;
- unknown SIP header parameters.

The term "unknown" here makes reference to messages, header fields or parameters that are not mandatory to be supported by CSCFs in IMS Release 5.

This behaviour is a main feature of the SIP protocol as defined by RFC3261 and was implicitly mentioned in several parts of the IMS specification already, e.g. in the description of filtering in 3GPP TS 23.218. Nevertheless it was seen as necessary to put a clear statement to 3GPP TS 24.229 in order to guarantee that implementations of IMS network elements act in conformance with the SIP specification.

Transparency means here, that a network entity passes on the unknown signalling element towards the receiving user. This does not prevent the network element to perform certain actions on the unknown signalling element. For example in case of an unknown SIP request, the S-CSCF will still be able to apply filter criteria on the request.

The actions for modifications of SIP messages in 3GPP TS 24.229 have been written in a way that they apply to both, known and unknown SIP messages.

2. Actions:

To SA WG2 and SA WG3 groups.

ACTION: CN1 kindly asks SA WG2 and SA WG3 to take the transport of unknown SIP signalling elements into consideration. CN WG1 asks for a reply to this liaison statement, if any problem with this behaviour is seen from architectural or security point of view.

To SA WG5 group.

ACTION: CN1 kindly asks SA WG5 to indicate if there are any implications or possible problems regarding to IMS charging due to the transport of unknown SIP signalling elements.

3. Date of Next TSG-CN1 Meetings:

CN1_31	25 th – 29 th August 2003	Sophia-Antipolis, France
CN1_32	27 th – 31 st October 2003	China