

**Title:** Reply LS on "Security issues regarding multiple PDP contexts in GPRS"  
**Response to:** LS (S2-033240) on Security issues regarding multiple PDP contexts in GPRS from SA2  
**Release:** Release 6

**Source:** SA3  
**To:** SA2, CN4  
**CC:**

**Contact Person:**

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**Attachments:** None

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**1. Overall Description:**

SA3 has been considering the security implications of SA2's LS in S2-033240 and have been discussing potential mechanisms to resolve the security issue as requested in the LS. These mechanisms have included terminal-only based mechanisms and network-only based mechanisms. The conclusion is that network-based security mechanisms and terminal-based security mechanisms are complementary. They both contribute to achieving a sufficient level of security to handle a spectrum of different security scenarios. Network-based security mechanisms protect when the end-user has the wrong terminal type, has failed to set-up, has misconfigured or doesn't want to use appropriate terminal-based security mechanisms. Terminal-based security mechanisms protect from threats, which network-based mechanisms cannot possibly detect.

From a mobile operator point of view, network-based security solutions have the advantage that they are easier to bundle into operator service offerings, potentially as extensions to existing service offerings. Agreements to enforce certain network-based security mechanisms are made between the operator and enterprises. These are then enforced on the end-users of the enterprise. Terminal based security solutions are generally the responsibility of the enterprise and the end-user.

**2. Actions:**

**To SA2 group.**

**ACTION:** SA3 kindly asks SA2 to take notice of the SA3 conclusion.

**To CN4 group.**

**ACTION:** SA3 kindly asks CN4 to analyse and identify network-based solutions that can alleviate the security concerns with allowing multiple simultaneous PDP contexts for certain subscriptions

**3. Date of Next TSG-SA3 Meetings:**

TSG-SA3 Meeting #31 18th – 21st November 2003 Munich, Germany.