

**Agenda Item:** 5.3.2  
**Source:** mmO2  
**Title:** Use of SIM with Release 5 Terminals  
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In the development of Release 5, 3GPP agreed to make the support of the SIM by terminals optional from Release 5. This was accepted at the time on the basis that networks would need the feature set provided by USIMs earlier than the Release 5 timeframe.

In the recent weeks, mmO2 has been looking at the need to transition to USIMs and has come to the conclusion that placing an artificial limitation on the lifetime of SIMs by mandating that operators move to USIMs in the Release 5 timeframe is no longer acceptable. The transition from SIM to USIM is a business decision for operators and the switch to USIMs should be based on features and facilities of USIMs, the interactions of SIM and USIMs with current and planned networks, and not artificial timescales imposed by 3GPP. Furthermore the market expects that SIMs will continue to be movable between devices, and the experience if SIMs fail to work in R5 devices will confuse and frustrate users, and create severe Customer Care issues for operators.

Therefore mmO2 proposes that the Release 5 decision to make SIM support on Release 5 terminals optional is reversed and that Release 5 terminals and later are mandated to support the SIM, and continue to support the principles of backward compatibility. ▯