

Source: MCC (Adrian Scrase)

Title: Report of MCC Activities for period PCG#8 to PCG#9

Agenda item: 7.1

Document for:

Decision	
Discussion	
Information	X

1 Introduction

This report covers the period between PCG#8 and PCG#9, and contains detailed information concerning the allocation of tasks within MCC and the implementation of TSG results.

2 The Support Team

2.1 MCC Departures

A number of experts have completed their contracts and left the support team to return to their home organizations since PCG#8, as follows:

Hans Van der Veen (Ericsson)
Carolyn Taylor (Motorola)
Ho Cheol Kim (KT ICOM)
Shinobu Ikeda, ARIB (who will leave by the end of this week).

2.2 Filling the MCC vacancies

OP#6 confirmed that the budget for 2003 should be of the same magnitude as that in 2002 and on this basis new experts have been recruited to fill the vacancies. The following new experts are now in post:

Tsukase Sasaki (Fujitsu, ARIB)
Claude Arzelier (Vodafone)
Joern Krause (Siemens)
Sang-Ui Yoon (KT ICOM-TTA)

The arrival of these new experts implies that the support team is now at full strength with all Working Groups and TSGs receiving support.

2.3 Organization of MCC

The figure given below shows the allocation of resources to each entity within 3GPP and is a snapshot taken on 1 October 2002. This chart is regularly maintained and the latest version may always be obtained from the 3GPP website at <http://www.3gpp.org/>

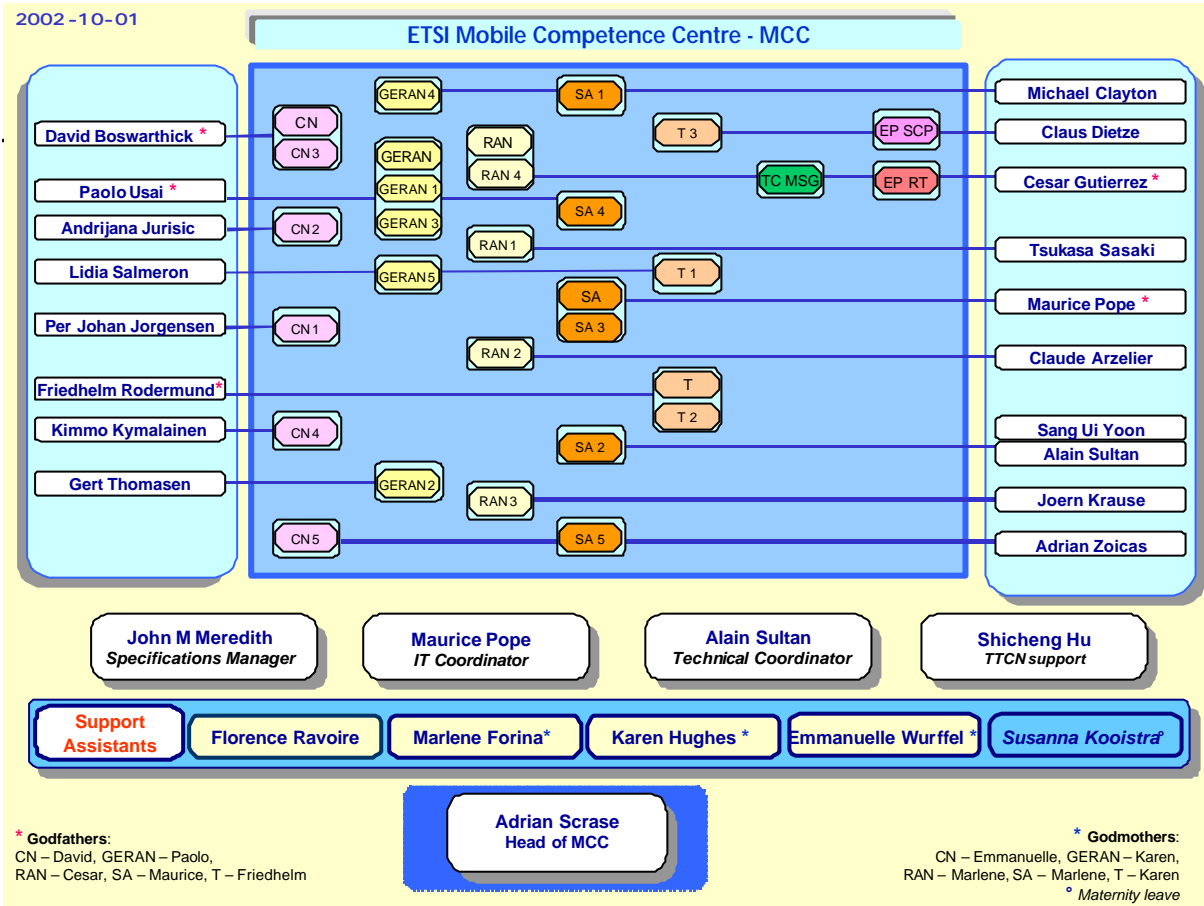


Figure 1: MCC Organizational Chart

3 Statistics and targets

3.1 Interesting statistics

At the start of TSG#17, MCC were managing **2479** active specifications. The distribution of those specifications looks as follows:

CLASSIFICATION	NUMBER OF ACTIVE SPECS
Phase 2	182
Release 96	201
Release 97	219
Release 98	280
Release 99	442
Release 4	520
Release 5	559
Release 6	76
TOTAL SPECIFICATIONS	2479

In addition, approximately **230** new versions of specifications have resulted from TSG#17 which need to be added to the table above.

The number of approved change requests for these specifications continues to be high. When looking at the trend of approved change requests across the different 3GPP Releases the following picture emerges at the start of TSG#17.

CLASSIFICATION	CRs in 1999	CRs in 2000	CRs in 2001	CRs in 2002	TOTAL
Rel 99 Specifications	1408	4400	2266	634	8708
Rel-4 Specifications		374	2807	1241	4422
Rel-5 Specifications		27	620	1432	2079
Rel 6 Specifications				15	15
TOTAL	1408	4801	5693	3322	15224

Approximately **1500 CRs** were approved during the TSG#17 session (including the results of TSG GERAN#11) which need to be added to the table above.

3.2 MCC performance

The MCC task still having the highest priority is the implementation of Change Requests and the delivery of the revised specifications within the shortest possible time. Targets are now well established and performance measurements are made following each TSG. Figure 2 below indicates that for TSGs 15 and 16 the volume of work has increased significantly and that this has impacted on performance with targets being missed at both TSGs. The data is not yet available for TSG#17 but it is expected that this will show a further increase in work volume and corresponding decrease in performance. It is predicted that, with time, the workload will not be sustainable and the PCG may wish to consider what action is required to avert this eventuality.

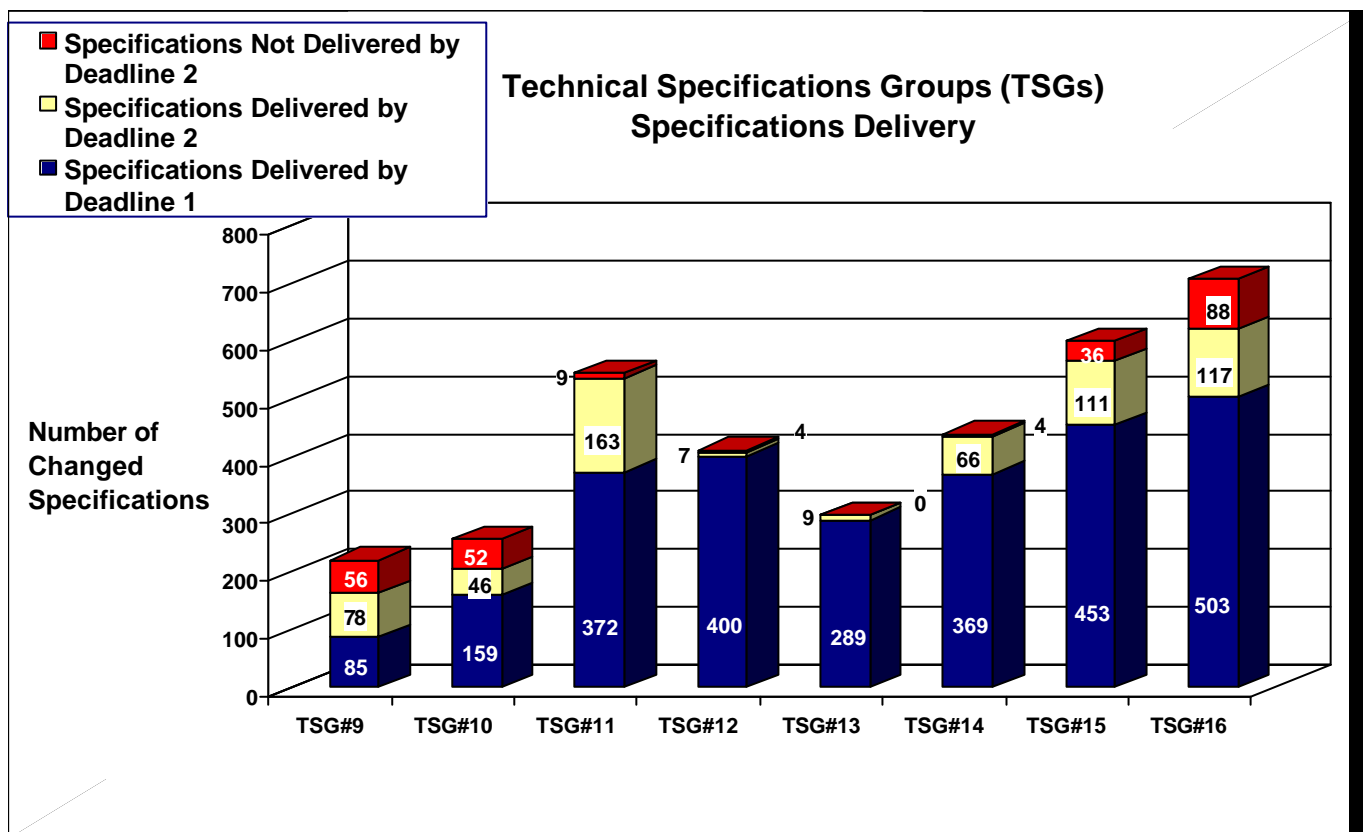


Figure 2: MCC Performance

TSG#14 expressed a clear wish for a quality indicator to be included within the MCC performance measurements, and whilst the workload continues to increase the accuracy of CR implementation remains a high priority.

From the start of monitoring (TSG#14) until the start of TSG#17, 4704 change requests had been implemented by MCC. 19 implementation errors have been detected representing an approximate error rate of 0,4%, or 4 errors in 1000 implementations.

4 MCC Workload

4.1 Specifications Maintenance

Figure 3 below shows the volume of CRs implemented by MCC per semester at the start of TSG#17 and it can be seen that the volume of CRs continues to rise with time. An additional 1500 CRs resulted from TSG#17, which still need to be added to this figure, confirming that the trend continues to show an increase rather than decrease in workload.

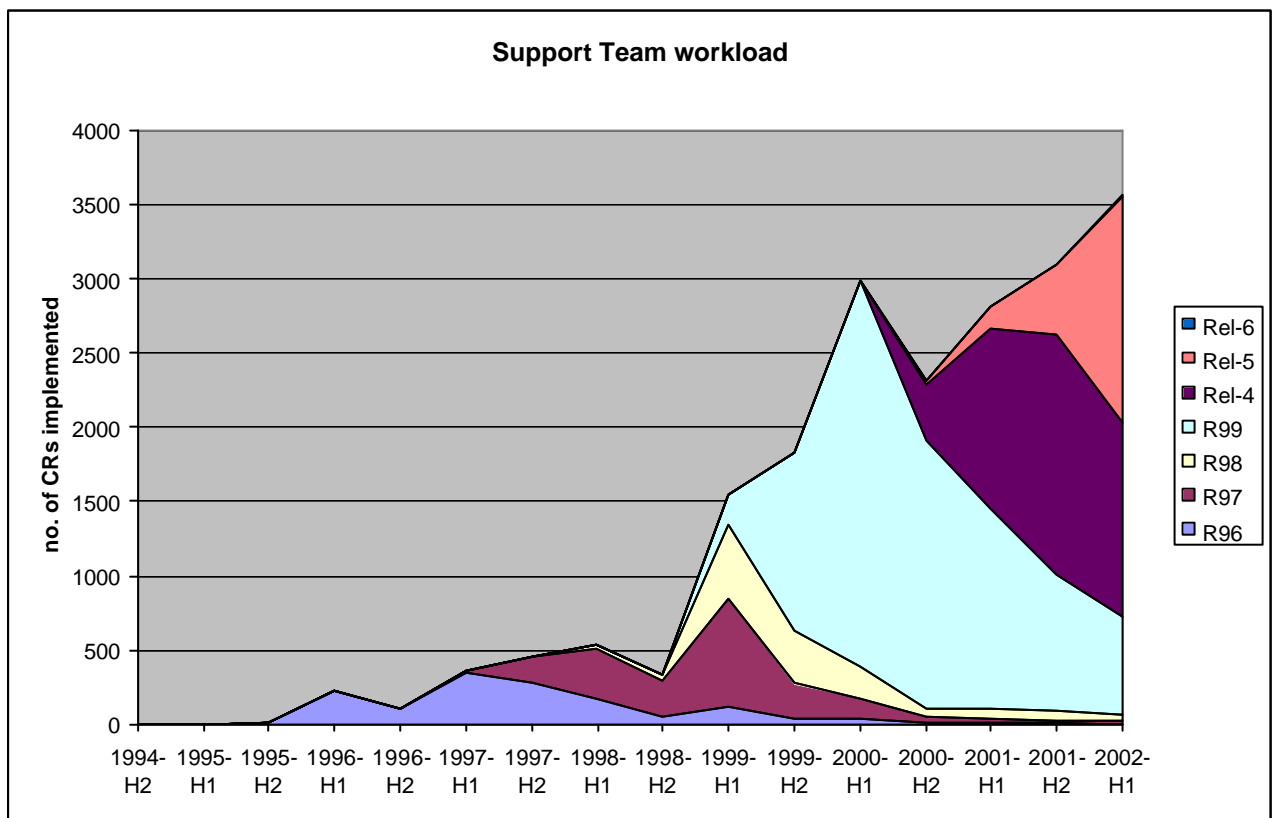


Figure 3: CRs implemented per semester

Figure 4 below shows the CR trends per release and gives an indication of the stability of each release over time. The reducing trend in CRs for both release 99 and release 4 is promising but the absolute number of CRs still remains high.

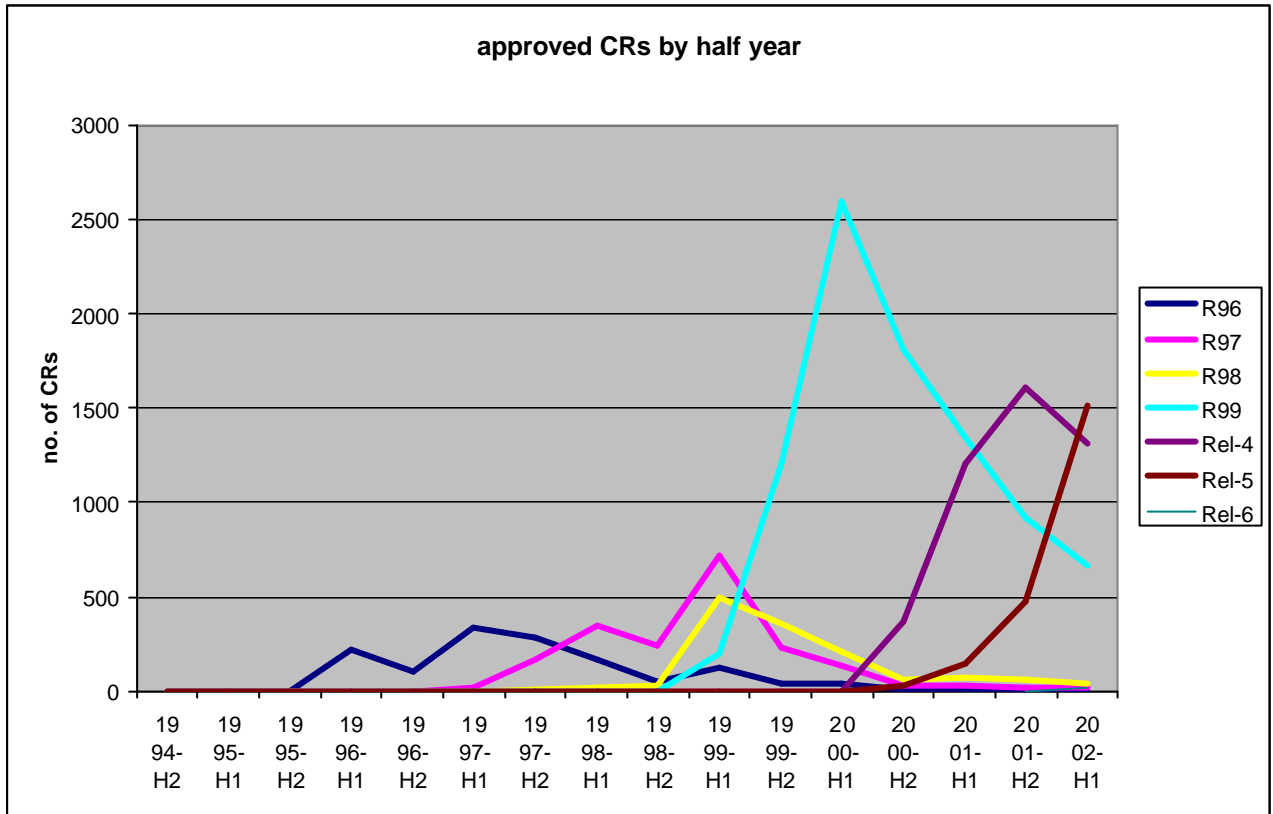


Figure 4: CRs implemented per semester

4.2 Workplan maintenance

The maintenance of the 3GPP Workplan is taking an increasing amount of time. We are now in a position of having a very concise, but complete plan of the work being performed across the Project, but the resources required to maintain the current level of detail should not be under-estimated. This level of effort is fully justified *if* the Workplan is actively being used by Industry. SA#15 confirmed that this is in fact the case and more resources have now been diverted to maintain the completeness and accuracy of the Workplan.

5 Budget issues

At TSG#16 the assumption was made that the resources available in 2003 would be the same as those available in 2002. However, the continued downturn of the telecomms industry has led to a review of this situation and it is now quite likely that a budget reduction will be made. This will of course have an impact on the work of 3GPP and the assistance of the TSG leadership will be required in order to set support priorities. This issue was brought to the attention of TSG#17 where a plea was made to 3GPP Individual Members to look for areas where a rationalisation of the organizational structure could be made which would lead to cost savings.

6 Working methods

The TSGs continue to look for improvements to be made in their working methods and during their recent meetings the low number of Members making use of the CD-ROM based document distribution service was noted. It was agreed that with immediate effect this service would be ceased, with reliance placed on document distribution by wireless access to a meeting server only. It is expected that this will result in an immediate cost saving with only one MCC Assistance being required to support the TSG meetings in future.

[Note: a single CD ROM will always be prepared as a back up in case of server failure.]

7 Concluding remarks.

The MCC workload still shows an increasing trend and, whichever way you look at it, that trend is not expected to reverse in the near future. However, it is now seems inevitable that the MCC resources will be reduced in 2003 and this will result in an additional burden on meeting delegates with some tasks needing to be performed by voluntary resources. MCC will do its part in trying to maintain a high level of service within the budget constraints and with the co-operation of 3GPP members it is hoped that this can be achieved.

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