3GPP TSG RAN WG2   **Tdoc R2-99639**
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3 GPP CN1   **Tdoc N1-99608**
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To: TSG SA 3, RAN 3, RAN 2, SMG 2

Draft LS on use of Ciphering Mode Command as a CM Service Accept

Currently, the UTRAN is intended to connect into largely unmodified GSM MSCs.

Although much of GSM 04.08 CM and MM is radio interface independent, there are some issues which need to be considered in the preparation of release '99.

One issue is the use by GSM MSCs of the A interface Cipher Mode Command to instigate both ciphering and to carry the "CM Service Accept" information to the mobile.

Can this behaviour be reused with the UTRAN; should it be made mandatory, or should it be prohibited?

In the case that this GSM MSC behaviour is prohibited with the UTRAN, are there any implications for an MSC that deploys the "UMTS message sequence" with a GSM BSS? (eg the CM Service Accept needs to arrive at the mobile before the Ciphering Mode Command).

Do mobiles simultaneously using both SGSN and MSC have any particular problems in this area?