

23-26 May, 2000**Yokohama, Japan**

Source: S3¹
To: N4
Title: **GTP signalling security**

S3 would like to thank N4 for their recent liaison statements on GTP signalling security (S3-000226 = N2B000445 and S3-000365 = N4-000363). N4 have requested S3's advice on whether IPsec is **the** protection mechanism to be used for GTP signalling, or whether IPsec is **a** protection mechanism to be used for GTP signalling.

Although there are very strong security requirements to standardise a solution for protecting both MAP and GTP signalling in the early versions of R00, S3 regret to report that it has not been possible to produce and agree a satisfactory solution which can be included in the next version of 33.102. It should be noted however that work on GTP signalling security is being progressed with high priority in S3 and it is hoped that a solution will be available soon. As soon as stable specifications are available, S3 will advise N4 so that work to integrate the security features into the N4 specifications in 29.060 can be progressed.

S3 are currently aiming to produce a solution based on the use of IPsec. However, many issues still remain to be resolved before a satisfactory solution can be agreed. S3 plan to present some of these issues at the joint meeting with CN on 13-14 June.

With regard to N4's specific question, S3 believe that a single solution should be standardised. However, S3 recognise that proprietary solutions (e.g. different implementations based on IPsec) may be employed in the absence of a standardised solution. Therefore, S3 would request that in the meantime N4 do not include any references to IPsec in 29.060 at the moment, to minimise the risk of encouraging proprietary solutions to be deployed.

S3 believe that the failure to present the necessary CRs to complete the GTP signalling security specifications by CN#8 and SA#8 will not adversely affect the presentation for approval of the necessary CRs to complete the MAP signalling security solution. S3 would like to express their sincere thanks to N4 for its efforts to produce the stage 3 specifications for MAP signalling security under the very tight timescales imposed by S3. S3 would also like to acknowledge N4's commitment to ensuring that GTP signalling security is properly addressed in the 3GPP specifications at the earliest possible opportunity and look forward to fruitful co-operation on this issue in the future.

¹ Contact: Peter Howard, Vodafone Ltd; tel +44 1635 676206; email peter.howard@vf.vodafone.co.uk