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Title: VHE/OSA Stage 2 and Stage 3 activities for R'00
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Introduction

During the work on the release '99 of the 3GPP VHE/OSA specification a split of the relevant specification work between the stage 2 and stage 3 groups has taken place. The stage 2 group defined the methods and their parameterizations whereas stage 3 worked on the class diagrams, state transition diagrams and the CORBA IDL. As a result, large efforts for the synchronization of the two specifications were needed.

Working Methodology for VHE/OSA Release 2000

The stage 2 will be refocused on the concepts needed to provide VHE for a Release 2000 Architecture. Therefore, the architectural part will introduce an increasing investigation of the S2 experts. Also, it is our believe that the VHE architecture must be generic enough that it can be independent of the underlying network technology (i.e. circuit-switched, All-IP, or even PSTN/ISDN) networks.

The Stage 3 part will describe the OSA API as a whole, and this includes as well the Interface class definitions, method descriptions and the method parameterization. This ensures that the API specification is contained within one single specification and no synchronization between stage 2 and stage 3 is required on the details of the API specification. Naturally, stage 2 will still provide their requirements to the stage 3 experts.

Proposal

It is proposed for release 2000 to merge the description of Framework and Network Service Capability Features from TS 23.127 into TS 29.198 and to create a single and generic stage 3 specification to standardize the Open Service Architecture API's.. This would lead to a much more effective means for the specification work. Stage 2 should then focus its content on the architectural work to provide concepts to reflect the VHE requirements.