

**16 - 19 October, 2001**

**Sydney, Australia**

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**Source:** SA3  
**To:** SA2, CN1  
**Cc:** CN4  
**Title:** Response to LS S2-012311, LS CN1-011332 on the use of Network Domain Security for protection of SIP signalling messages.

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**Attachments:** None

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SA3 thanks SA2 and CN1 for their liaisons on the use of Network Domain Security for protecting SIP signalling messages (S2-012311 S3-01433, N1-011332 S3-010442).

These liaisons have helped SA3 to make decisions on the role of Network Domain Security for protecting SIP signalling messages. Following further investigation from SA3, we have revised our working assumptions as follows:

- It is not a requirement to protect GTP-U in the interfaces between RNC, SGSN and GGSN for the purpose of protecting SIP signalling messages.
- Integrity and, optionally, confidentiality will be provided between the UE and P-CSCF using mechanisms at the SIP or upper IP layer.
- Network Domain Security shall be used to protect SIP signalling in the IMS core network between different network operators' networks.

Further, SA3 have separated the goals of confidentiality of initial registration messages from confidentiality of subsequent signalling messages. Under the revised working assumptions, the IMS security architecture does not protect the initial registration message between the UE and P-CSCF. The only confidentiality protection for initial registration is provided by RAN encryption in the case of UTRAN access. S3 will undertake to investigate what confidentiality requirements (e.g. user identity confidentiality) there are on the initial register message and may find a mechanism to satisfy these requirements.

**Actions:**

None

**Date of Next SA3 Meetings:**

SA3#21                      27<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> November 2001                      Sophia Antipolis, France.