3GPP TSG SA WG3 Security — S3#21   **S3-010654**

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Sophia Antipolis, France

From:	**SA3**
To:	**SA2**
Copy:	**SA5, CN1**
Title:	**P-CSCF triggered re-authentication**
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During SIP registration the S-CSCF specifies a registration lifetime to the user whereby the user must re-register before the lifetime expires otherwise the registration is terminated. In the context of the IMS security architecture this mechanism can be used by the S-CSCF to determine the frequency of re-authentication by forcing an authentication to occur at these periodic re-registrations. Although this mechanism satisfies basic re-authentication requirements, it does not offer the fully flexibility that is required by network operators. For instance, the frequency of re-authentication should be related to the network's exposure to fraud. However, the cost of the offered service may vary considerably during a registration period due to different usage patterns and charging models. Therefore, in addition to the basic mechanism described above, SA3 have determined that there is also a requirement for the S-CSCF to be able to trigger a re-authentication at any point during a registration, e.g. based on charging-related events.

While the requirement for S-CSCF triggered re-authentication has been clearly established in SA3, there has been some debate as to whether or not there is an additional requirement for the P-CSCF to be able to trigger re-authentication. To find out whether such a requirement exists, SA3 has considered whether the P-CSCF may charge for some events that are not charged for by the S-CSCF. If this were the case then the S-CSCF's re-authentication policy may not adequately address the P-CSCF's exposure to fraud. After briefly studying the charging information generated in the P-CSCF as described in the latest draft TR on IMS charging [TR 23.815], SA3 have determined that there is no clear requirement for the P-CSCF to be able to trigger re-authentication. Therefore, **SA3 have adopted the working assumption that P-CSCF triggered re-authentication is not required**.

Action: SA2 are asked to provide SA3 with any new information (e.g. relating to P-CSCF charging information) which may require SA3 to revise the above-mentioned working assumption.

[TR23.815]   3GPP TSG SA WG2, TR 23.815, Release 5, Charging implications of IMS architecture; v0.2.0, October 2001