

Agenda Item: 6.1

Source: NTTDoCoMo, NEC, Sharp

Title: Suggested Approach for handling EMC/Safety Requirements
In 3GPP standards

Document for: Discussion – Strategy for Effective Standardization
Decision – Approval & Implementation

Introduction

Recently, there has been some discussion regarding the approach for handling EMC requirements in 3GPP standards. One approach being suggested was that the ERC and IEC regulatory requirements should be built into the 3GPP standard as requirements to be met by equipment conforming to the 3GPP standards.

There has also been discussion regarding differing regulatory requirements in the various regions and countries of the world, and the best approach for handling these differing requirements.

This contribution recommends an approach for handling the differing EMC/regulatory requirements.

Discussion

For second generation Digital Mobile Communication standards such as the GSM standards (or equivalently, the IS-54 or PDC standards), building ERC and IEC regulatory requirements into the main body of the standards at the early standardization stage was perhaps entirely appropriate.

The 3GPP standards are envisioned to be utilized worldwide, the equipment will be used in various regions and countries of the world. The regulatory requirements in these regions are in many cases already promulgated. In many cases, they do not bear any resemblance to ERC and/or IEC regulations, even though the intent and even the actual implementation may result in quite proximate results, while the actual details (e.g. regarding test setups) may be quite different.

In any case, the regulatory regimes are rather firm in implementing their individual requirements without apparent regard to requirements in other regions of the world, and need a lot of persuasion before implementing even minor deviations. Handing over to a regulatory regime a new, complete and voluminous set of requirements, and asking them to incorporate this wholesale into its country's requirements, or even to invest the time and effort to do an evaluation for this purpose, is not a feasible option.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the EMC Regulatory requirements for each region or country need to be handled separately. A set of Annexes needs to be created, e.g. Annex A for Europe, Annex B for the USA, Annex C for Japan, etc. Each Annex will incorporate the regulatory requirements for each country/region. Frequently the Annex may consist only of a reference to the relevant regulatory requirements document, without re-iterating the content, or having to keep current with any changes. Alternatively, a particular Annex may choose to incorporate the text, the decision can be made on a per Annex basis.

Equipment that a manufacturer/vendor intends to sell in more than one country/region will then need to be tested against the relevant Annexes, and the results submitted to each country's regulatory/certification body. This is an unwaivable requirement, in any case.

Action Required

This group should discuss and decide on the most effective strategy and approach for handling this very important question area. One effective approach is proposed above.

Implement each region/country regulatory requirements in separate Annexes distinct from the man body of the 3GPP standards.