

Source: T3 Chairman

Title: Draft LS to PCG on funding for USIM testing

Background

At the T3 #6 meeting (Miami, 18-20 June 1999) a request was brought forward to transfer GSM 11.17 *SIM Conformance Test Specification (SIM CTS)* to 3GPP. This is an optional GSM Phase 2+ specification which had been approved by SMG #28 in February 1999. It is intended for network operators to be used as part of their evaluation of SIMs.

The discussion of the request showed that this specification would need some substantial rewriting due to the different requirements and enhancements of the 3G core documents. No resources could be found in T3 for such a task. T3 is focusing all its energy on the timely completion of the core specifications for 3G Release 1999. It was also pointed out that the existing resources in ETSI SMG9 are very limited and that these are fully dedicated to the completion of the test specification for the SIM Application Toolkit. Applications based on this GSM specification are already entering the market in a constantly increasing number. T3 did not, therefore, see any immediate solution to the transfer and the rewriting of the SIM Conformance Test Specification for the purposes of 3G.

During the discussion at T3 it was concluded that there were two main USIM related test issues which needed to be addressed with some urgency. It was the understanding of the meeting that a document containing the essential tests for the UICC/USIM – Terminal interface was of extreme importance for the smooth introduction of 3G services. It should be based on section 27 of GSM 11.10 which specifies the tests to be performed on the SIM-ME interface and forms the basis for ME type approval. This new document was considered to be of higher priority than the creation of a USIM CTS. T3 currently, however, does not have the resources to even begin with the elaboration of such a specification.

Proposal

To satisfy the need for USIM related tests covering

- the UICC/USIM – Terminal interface (based on GSM 11.10, section 27), and
- conformance test issues (based on GSM 11.17)

it is proposed that the Partner Organisations fund a "project team" which develops two test specifications. This project team should be managed by one of the Partners and be co-ordinated by TSG-T3 in close co-ordination with TSG-T1.

A first estimate of the required time is six (6) to eight (8) months for the interface tests and three (3) to four (4) months for the USIM CTS.

The experts should be drawn from SIM and ME manufacturers and test houses for GSM type approval.

Failure to provide such funding would result in the respective specifications not being available before the introduction of the 3G service.