

Source: TSG-CN
Title: Liaison statement on freezing GSM Release 97 & Release 98
To: TSG-RAN, TSG-SA, TSG-T
cc: SMG, TSG-N WG1, TSG-N WG2

Introduction

TSG-N have noted the concern of TSG-N WG1 and TSG-WG2 that the number of change requests against GSM specifications (especially CAMEL and GPRS) for Release 97 & Release 98 is so high that implementers do not have a stable base for their work. We have to accept that after SMG#30 it will not be acceptable to change GSM Release 98 or earlier releases except to deal with serious technical errors.

Acceptable categories of change

TSG-N believe that only the following categories of change should be accepted:

(C1) Essential corrections, i.e. where a frequently occurring successful or unsuccessful case is not handled properly because there is some (as yet undetected) error or significant ambiguity in the specifications;

NB: C1 applies only to cases which are likely to occur frequently. It is too late to correct errors which occur only infrequently.

(C2) Corrections to incorrect implementation of earlier CRs or to the effect of two or more conflicting CRs;

(C3) Other CRs where the CR is actively supported by all relevant manufacturing companies.

A relevant manufacturing company is a company which manufactures equipment (network entities or mobile stations) which would be affected by the proposed change.

When a CR is presented for approval, the category into which it falls shall be identified. If this cannot be identified then the CR shall be automatically rejected.

If a change to Release 97 or earlier is accepted, it will in general be necessary to accept the corresponding CR(s) to later release(s).

Conclusion

TSG-RAN, TSG-SA & TSG-T are asked to apply the principles described above when they consider possible change requests to GSM Release 98 and earlier.