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# Foreword

This Technical Specification has been produced by the 3rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP).

The contents of the present document are subject to continuing work within the TSG and may change following formal TSG approval. Should the TSG modify the contents of the present document, it will be re-released by the TSG with an identifying change of release date and an increase in version number as follows:

Version x.y.z

where:

x the first digit:

1 presented to TSG for information;

2 presented to TSG for approval;

3 or greater indicates TSG approved document under change control.

y the second digit is incremented for all changes of substance, i.e. technical enhancements, corrections, updates, etc.

z the third digit is incremented when editorial only changes have been incorporated in the document.

# Introduction

In order to ensure correctness and consistency of the specifications (i.e., technical specifications and technical reports) under responsibility of the Technical Specification Groups (TSG) of the 3rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP), clear, manageable and efficient mechanisms are necessary to handle version control, change control, document updating, distribution and management.

The provisions for this Release are identical with those for the latest Release of TR 21.900 [1].

# 1 Scope

This document outlines the working methods to be used by the 3GPP Technical Specification Groups and their Working Groups and their Sub-Groups, and by the 3GPP Support Team in relation to document management, i.e. handling of specifications, updating procedures, Change Request procedures, version control mechanisms, specifications status information etc. It complements the rules and procedures defined for 3GPP. This document does not stipulate the details of the internal working of the TSG Sub-Groups. From the Technical Specification Group point of view, a task and responsibility is given to a Working Group directly answering to the Technical Specification Group. In practice, the work/task may be carried out in a subgroup of that Working Group.

# 1A References

The following documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of the present document.

* References are either specific (identified by date of publication, edition number, version number, etc.) or non‑specific.
* For a specific reference, subsequent revisions do not apply.
* For a non-specific reference, the latest version applies.In the case of a reference to a 3GPP document (including a GSM document), a non-specific reference implicitly refers to the latest version of that document *in the same Release as the present document*.

[1] 3GPP TR 21.900 Release 11: "Technical Specification Group working methods".

Annex A:  
Change history

| Change history | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| TSG SA# | Version | CR | Tdoc SA | New Version | Subject/Comment |
| SP-04 | 3.0.0 | 001 | SP-99288 | 3.1.0 | Alignment with TSG SA decisions made at TSG#3. Deletion of Strategic/non strategic CR references. Change of PT to Support Team, editorial corrections. |
| 002 | SP-99289 | Harmonisation of the use of software for 3GPP documents in order to minimise the errors due to software conversion problems and to allow efficient interchange of electronic files for electronic working. |
| SP-05 | 3.1.0 | 003 | SP-99428 | 3.2.0 | Addition of new text related to electronic working practices. |
| SP-08 | 3.2.0 | 005 | SP-000279 | 3.3.0 | Clarification and editorial corrections to provisions covering the management of specifications and Work Items. |
| SP-09 | 3.3.0 | 007 r1 | SP-000402 | 3.4.0 | Role of rapporteur for both Specifications and Work Items. |
| 008 r2 | SP-000492 | Clarification of CR categories. |
| 010 | SP-000461 | Clarification of CR categories for a frozen 3GPP release. |
| editorial |  | Change of “Release 2000” into “Release 4”, addition of “Release 5”. |
| SP-10 | 3.4.0 | 011 r1 | SP-000693 | 3.5.0 | Release numbers appearing in CR cover sheets |
| 3.4.0 | 012 r1 | SP-000693 | Clarification of the "freezing" of specifications |
| 3.4.0 | 013 r2 | SP-000693 | Release mechanisms |
| SP-11 | 3.5.0 | 014 r1 | SP-010178 | 3.6.0 | Inclusion of GSM spec numbering scheme |
| 3.6.0 | - | - | 4.0.0 | Upgrade to Rel‑4. |
| SP-16 | 4.0.0 | - | - | 5.0.0 | Upgrade to Rel-5. |
| 2002-09-17 | 5.0.0 | - | - | 5.0.1 | Editorial correction to front cover (change title to read Release 5 instead of Release 4) |
| SP-21 | 5.0.1 | 015 | SP-030499 | 6.0.0 | Addition of stage 1-2-3 specification structure description |
| SP-22 | 6.0.0 | 019 | SP-030575 | 6.1.0 | Corrects references |
| SP-23 | 6.1.0 | - | - | 6.1.1 | Corrects Release shown on cover page |
| SP-24 | 6.1.1 | 020 | SP-040310 | 6.2.0 | Rlease planning: target date setting |
|  | - | Editorial: Correction of second clause 6.0.2 to 6.0.3. |
| SP-25 | 6.2.0 | 021 r3 | SP-040705 | 6.3.0 | Introduction of "Early Implementation" process |
| 024 | SP-040706 | Improved tracking of Work Item status |
| SP-26 | 6.3.0 | 025 | SP-040824 | 7.0.0 | Editorial clarification of version numbering system, upgrade to Rel-7 |
| SP-28 | 7.0.0 |  |  | 7.0.1 | Editorial corrections to harmonize use of capitalization plus a typographical error |
| SP-29 | 7.0.1 | 028 | SP-050537 | 7.1.0 | Introduction of the concept of "study item" |
| SP-32 | 7.1.0 | 029 | SP-060403 | 7.2.0 | Inclusion of "study item" in definition of "work item" |
| 030 | Change "short" to "long" WG abbreviations |
| 031 r1 | Correct references to obsolete TSG. |
| 032 | Registration of code points with external bodies |
| SP-37 | 7.2.0 | 034 r2 | SP-070703 | 8.0.0 | Alignment of working methods with alignment CR practice agreed in TSG SA #36 |
| SP-38 | 8.0.0 | 035 | SP-070900 | 8.1.0 | Addition of 36.-series to Specs series table |
|  | 8.1.0 |  |  | 8.1.1 | Correct typo in previous entry in history table |
| SP-39 | 8.1.1 | 036 r2 | SP-080079 | 8.2.0 | Clarification of version nomenclature |
| SP-42 | 8.2.0 | 037 r3 | SP-080897 | 8.3.0 | Determination of freeze dates for stages of a Release. (Correction recommended by OP ad hoc group on improvements.) |
| 038 r1 | SP-080721 | Cross-TSG work coordination. (Correction recommended by OP ad hoc group on improvements.) |
| 039 r2 | Introduction of concept of "exception sheets" for late-running work items |
| SP-46 | 8.3.0 |  |  | 9.0.0 | Upgrade without technical change to Rel-9 |
| SP-51 | 9.0.0 |  |  | 10.0.0 | Upgrade without technical change to Rel-10 |
| SP-54 | 10.0.0 | 046 | SP-110802 | 10.1.0 | Eliminate contents of Rel-10 and substitute with pointer to Rel-11 |