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Telekomunikacijsko upravljavno omrežje (TMN) – Funkcijska specifikacija za upravljanje informacij o merjenju zasedenosti na vmesniku operacijski sistem/omrežni element (NE/OS)

Telecommunications Management Network (TMN); Functional specification of usage metering information management on the Operations System/Network Element (OS/NE) interface

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Telecommunications Management Network (TMN); Functional specification of usage metering information management on the Operations System/Network Element (OS/NE) interface

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Foreword

This Interim European Telecommunication Standard (I-ETS) has been produced by the Network Aspects (NA) Technical Committee of the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI).

An ETSI standard may be given I-ETS status either because it is regarded as a provisional solution ahead of a more advanced standard, or because it is immature and requires a "trial period". The life of an I-ETS is limited to three years after which it can be converted into an ETS, have it's life extended for a further two years, be replaced by a new version, or be withdrawn.

Announcement date	
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1 Scope

This Interim European Telecommunication Standard (I-ETS) specifies the management information model which covers the management aspects of the "usage metering information" function.

The model specified in this I-ETS applies to the Operations System to Network Element (OS/NE) interface.

The scope is further limited to the following priorities assigned for the scope of the work:

- modelling of the requirements for the analogue, digital and Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) subscribers;

- modelling of these subscribers requirements in connection with Intelligent Networks (INs).

The scope of this I-ETS is also to give a list of elements needed to provide a complete usage information record to be utilized for charging and itemized billing and accounting. Collected data will be formatted and sent to the specialized centre (OS). The use of this data for other purposes, e.g. statistics, customer care etc. is possible, but out of the scope of this I-ETS.

Usage metering in connection with operator assisted calls is out of the scope of this I-ETS.

NOTE: The modelling of the charging and the billing processes is outside the scope of this I-ETS. Nevertheless, the usage metering record defined in this I-ETS may contain charge information if the calculation of charge is performed by the NE itself.

2 Normative references

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This I-ETS incorporates by dated and undated reference, provisions from other publications. These normative references are cited at the appropriate places in the text and the publications are listed hereafter. For dated references, subsequent amendments to or revisions of any of these publications apply to this I-ETS only when incorporated in it by amendment or revision. For undated references the latest edition of the publication referred to applies.

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[1] ETS 300 182 (1993): "Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN); Advice of Charge (AOC) supplementary service; Digital Subscriber Signalling System No. one (DSS1) protocol".

[2] ETS 300 196-1 (1993): "Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN); Generic functional protocol for the support of supplementary services; Digital Subscriber Signalling System No. one (DSS1) protocol; Part 1: Protocol specification".

[3] ETS 300 356-1 (1994): "Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN); Signalling System No.7; ISDN User Part (ISUP) version 2 for the international interface; Part 1: Basic services [ITU-T Recommendations Q.761 to Q.764 (1993), modified]".

[4] ETS 300 374-1 (1994): "Intelligent Network (IN); Intelligent Network Capability Set 1 (CS1); Core Intelligent Network Application Protocol (INAP)".

[5] EN 300 403-1 (1994): "Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN); Digital Subscriber Signalling System No. one (DSS1) protocol; Signalling network layer for circuit-mode basic call control; Part 1: Protocol specification [ITU-T Recommendation Q.931 (1993), modified]".

[6] ETS 300 738 (1996): "Human Factors (HF): Minimum Man-Machine Interface (MMI) to public network based supplementary services".

[7] ITU-T Recommendation M.3100 (1992): "Generic network information model".

[8] ITU-T Recommendation M.3200 (1992): "TMN Management Service: Overview".

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[9] ITU-T Recommendation Q.811 (1993): "Lower layer protocol profiles for the Q3 and X interfaces".

[10] ITU-T Recommendation Q.812 (1993): "Upper layer protocol profiles for the Q3 and X interfaces".

[11] ITU-T Recommendation Q.850 (1993): "Usage of cause and location in the digital subscriber signalling system no. 1 and signalling system no. 7 ISDN user part".

[12] ITU-T Recommendation X.209 (1988): "Specification of basic encoding rules for Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1)".

[13] ITU-T Recommendation X.680 (1993): "Information technology - Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1): Specification of basic notation".

[14] ITU-T Recommendation X.681 (1993): "Information technology - Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1): Information object specification".

[15] ITU-T Recommendation X.682 (1993): "Information technology - Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1): Constraint specification".

[16] ITU-T Recommendation X.683 (1993): "Information technology - Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1): Parameterization of ASN.1 specifications".

[17] ITU-T Recommendation X.701 (1992): "Information technology - Open Systems Interconnection - Systems management overview".

[18] ITU-T Recommendation X.721 (1992): "Information technology - Open Systems Interconnection - Structure of management information: definition of management information".

[19] ITU-T Recommendation X.722 (1992): "Information technology - Open Systems Interconnection - Structure of management information: Guidelines for the definition of managed objects".

[20] ITU-T Recommendation X.730 (1992): "Information technology - Open Systems Interconnection - Systems Management: Object Management Function".

[21] ITU-T Recommendation X.734 (1992): "Information technology - Open Systems Interconnection - Systems management: Event report management function".

[22] ITU-T Recommendation X.735 (1992): "Information technology - Open Systems Interconnection - Systems management: Log control function".

[23] ITU-T Recommendation X.742 (1994): "Information technology - Open Systems Interconnection - Systems management - Usage metering function for accounting purposes".

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3 Definitions and abbreviations

3.1 Definitions

For the purposes of this I-ETS, the following definitions apply:

charging: The set of functions needed to determine the amount of charge units to be assigned to the service utilization.

service subscriber: Is the legal entity, which has subscribed to a certain service type. It is not necessarily a different party from the service user. (The calling and called parties of a service transaction are service users).

usage metering: The abstraction of activities that monitor the utilization of resources, for the purpose of accounting and controlling the recording of usage data.

usage metering data: Data which represents usage from which usage metering records may be derived.

usage metering record: A data item containing usage information relating to a specific period of resource utilization by a specific user.

usage: Quantification of the utilization of a resource from which information may be derived for the purpose of accounting.

user: An identifiable entity whose use of resources shall be accounted.

3.2 Abbreviations

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For the purposes of this I-ETS, the following abbreviations apply:

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ACM	Address Complete Message
AOC	Advice of Charge
ASN.1	Abstract Syntax Notation No.1
CLIP	Calling Line Identity Presentation
DDI	Direct Dialling In
DN	Directory Number
EFD	Event Forwarding Discriminator
FCI	Furnish Charging Information
IAM	Initial Address Message
IN	Intelligent Network
INAP	Intelligent Network Application Protocol
ISDN	Integrated Services Digital Network
ISUP	ISDN User Part
MF	Management Function
MML	Man Machine Language
MOCS	Managed Objects Conformance Statement
MSN	Multiple Subscriber Number
NE	Network Element
NEF	Network Element Function
NPI	Numbering Plan Identification
OS	Operations System
OSF	Operations System Function
PSTN	Public Switched Telephone Network
TMN	Telecommunications Management Network
TON	Type Of Number
UMR	Usage Metering Record
UPT	Universal Personal Telecommunication
VAS	Value Added Service

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4 General

4.1 Requirements for usage metering

The usage measuring function shall fulfil the requirements by which resource utilization is determined so that the data that are gathered may be used for the process of accounting management and the generation of bills. The following requirements should be met:

- The function shall allow sufficient control over the collection of usage data so that the relevant information can be made available when required. A management system should have the capability to access individual usage records almost instantaneously. This feature is required e.g. for real time cost calculation like hot billing.

- A management system shall have a standardized way of obtaining and representing usage information to advise subscribers of their usage and to facilitate exchange of usage information with other suppliers.

- The usage record shall be self-contained, i.e. the interpretation of the record shall not be dependent on the system where the usage record was created.

- Several resources may be utilized to provide a service. The function should make it possible to relate usage-records to the resources that are actually used for providing the requested service.

- The function should support a number of conditions for reporting of a usage record. Conditions that will cause the reporting of a usage record are:

  - termination of a service;
  - change of service e.g. due to change of charging conditions;
  - reaching a volume threshold;
  - at regular intervals during a practical service transaction.

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4.2 Use of Usage Metering Records (UMR)

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Subscriber billing

The usage metering data collected from the Network Elements (NE) is employed to determine the network resources utilization charges for the basic and supplementary services utilized by the subscriber. The charges calculated are then combined with the network access (subscription) charges and billed to those customers served by the Operations System Function (OSF).

Account settlement management

The settlement of accounts with the operators of other networks for traffic carried, is generally performed on a bulk basis. Accounting information may also be used for settlement of accounts with services provided by services centres and other Value Added Service (VAS) providers. The charges for the various traffic shares may be determined on the basis of the call records generated by the NEs or on the basis of bulk counters (accounting meter records) in the gateway exchanges. For the purpose of this specification, the management information required is assumed to be derived from usage metering records. The management of bulk meters is outside the scope of this I-ETS.

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Service provision

The usage metering data collected from the NEs may be used to provide statistical information concerning the use of services within the network. In addition, the introduction of new services and/or modifications to the tariffs of existing services may also require the distribution of the appropriate tariff information to the NEs for Advice Of Charge (AOC) purposes. The management of tariff information is outside the scope of this I-ETS.

Customer administration

The call data collected from the NEs provides a historic record of subscriber activity and may be used for the handling of customer care enquiries such as billing complaints, statistic analysis, detection of abnormal use etc.

5 Conceptual model

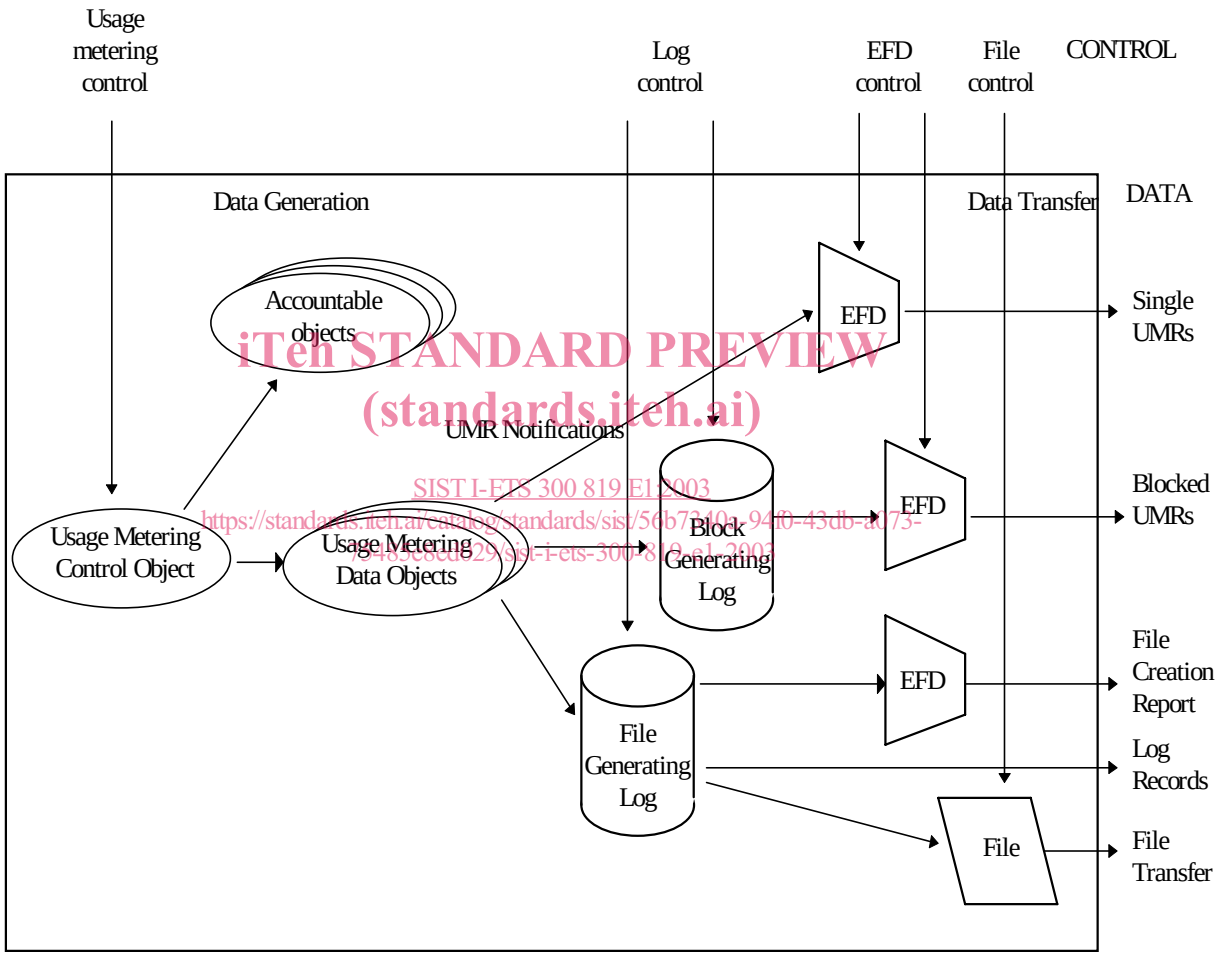

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Figure 1: Data collection model

This I-ETS is a specialization of ITU-T Recommendation X.742 [23]. ITU-T Recommendation X.742 [23] defines the following object classes to control and collect the usage metering data:

- **usage metering control object** that is used to control the collection of usage data for one or more accountable objects (resource being used);

- **usage metering data object** that contains the collected information.