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**GEO-Mobile Radio Interface Specifications (Release 3);
Third Generation Satellite Packet Radio Service;
Part 4: Radio interface protocol specifications;
Sub-part 14: Mobile Earth Station (MES) -
Base Station System (BSS) interface;
Radio Link Control/Medium
Access Control (RLC/MAC) protocol;
lu Mode;
GMR-1 3G 44.160**

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Version 3.m.n

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- the second digit (m) is incremented for all other types of changes, i.e. technical enhancements, corrections, updates, etc.

The present document is part 4, sub-part 14 of a multi-part deliverable covering the GEO-Mobile Radio Interface Specifications (Release 3) Third Generation Satellite Packet Radio Service, as identified below:

Part 1: "General specifications";

Part 2: "Service specifications";

Part 3: "Network specifications";

Part 4: "Radio interface protocol specifications";

Sub-part 1: "Mobile Earth Station-Gateway Station System (MES-GSS) Interface; GMR-1 04.001";

Sub-part 2: "GMR-1 Satellite Network Access Reference Configuration; GMR-1 04.002";

Sub-part 3: "Channel Structures and Access Capabilities; GMR-1 04.003";

Sub-part 4: "Layer 1 General Requirements; GMR-1 04.004";

Sub-part 5: "Data Link Layer General Aspects; GMR-1 04.005";

Sub-part 6: "Mobile earth Station-Gateway Station Interface Data Link Layer Specifications; GMR-1 04.006";

Sub-part 7: "Mobile Radio Interface Signalling Layer 3 General Aspects; GMR-1 3G 24.007";

Sub-part 8: "Mobile Radio Interface Layer 3 Specifications; GMR-1 3G 44.008";

Sub-part 9: "Performance Requirements on the Mobile Radio Interface; GMR-1 04.013";

Sub-part 10: "Rate Adaptation on the Access Terminal-Gateway Station Subsystem (MES-GSS) Interface; GMR-1 04.021";

Sub-part 11: "Radio Link Protocol (RLP) for Data Services; GMR-1 04.022";

- Sub-part 12: "Mobile Earth Station (MES) - Base Station System (BSS) interface; Radio Link Control/Medium Access Control (RLC/MAC) protocol; GMR-1 3G 44.060";
- Sub-part 13: "Radio Resource Control (RRC) protocol; Iu Mode; GMR-1 3G 44.118";
- Sub-part 14: "Mobile Earth Station (MES) - Base Station System (BSS) interface; Radio Link Control/Medium Access Control (RLC/MAC) protocol; Iu Mode; GMR-1 3G 44.160";**
- Sub-part 15: "Packet Data Convergence Protocol (PDCP) specification; GMR-1 3G 25.323";
- Part 5: "Radio interface physical layer specifications";
- Part 6: "Speech coding specifications";
- Part 7: "Terminal adaptor specifications".

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Introduction

GMR stands for GEO (Geostationary Earth Orbit) Mobile Radio interface, which is used for Mobile Satellite Services (MSS) utilizing geostationary satellite(s). GMR is derived from the terrestrial digital cellular standard GSM and supports access to GSM core networks.

The present document is part of the GMR Release 3 specifications. Release 3 specifications are identified in the title and can also be identified by the version number:

- Release 1 specifications have a GMR 1 prefix in the title and a version number starting with "1" (V1.x.x).
- Release 2 specifications have a GMPRS 1 prefix in the title and a version number starting with "2" (V2.x.x).
- Release 3 specifications have a GMR-1 3G prefix in the title and a version number starting with "3" (V3.x.x).

The GMR release 1 specifications introduce the GEO-Mobile Radio interface specifications for circuit mode Mobile Satellite Services (MSS) utilizing geostationary satellite(s). GMR release 1 is derived from the terrestrial digital cellular standard GSM (phase 2) and it supports access to GSM core networks.

The GMR release 2 specifications add packet mode services to GMR release 1. The GMR release 2 specifications introduce the GEO-Mobile Packet Radio Service (GMPRS). GMPRS is derived from the terrestrial digital cellular standard GPRS (included in GSM Phase 2+) and it supports access to GSM/GPRS core networks.

The GMR release 3 specifications evolve packet mode services of GMR release 2 to 3rd generation UMTS compatible services. The GMR release 3 specifications introduce the GEO-Mobile Radio Third Generation (GMR-1 3G) service. Where applicable, GMR-1 3G is derived from the terrestrial digital cellular standard 3GPP and it supports access to 3GPP core networks.

Due to the differences between terrestrial and satellite channels, some modifications to the GSM or 3GPP standard are necessary. Some GSM and 3GPP specifications are directly applicable, whereas others are applicable with modifications. Similarly, some GSM and 3GPP specifications do not apply, while some GMR specifications have no corresponding GSM or 3GPP specification.

Since GMR is derived from GSM and 3GPP, the organization of the GMR specifications closely follows that of GSM or 3GPP as appropriate. The GMR numbers have been designed to correspond to the GSM and 3GPP numbering system. All GMR specifications are allocated a unique GMR number. This GMR number has a different prefix for Release 2 and Release 3 specifications as follows:

- Release 1: GMR n xx.zyy.
- Release 2: GMPRS n xx.zyy.
- Release 3: GMR-1 3G xx.zyy.

where:

- x.0yy ($z = 0$) is used for GMR specifications that have a corresponding GSM or 3GPP specification. In this case, the numbers xx and yy correspond to the GSM or 3GPP numbering scheme.
- xx.2yy ($z = 2$) is used for GMR specifications that do not correspond to a GSM or 3GPP specification. In this case, only the number xx corresponds to the GSM or 3GPP numbering scheme and the number yy is allocated by GMR.
- n denotes the first ($n = 1$) or second ($n = 2$) family of GMR specifications.

A GMR system is defined by the combination of a family of GMR specifications and GSM and 3GPP specifications as follows:

- If a GMR specification exists it takes precedence over the corresponding GSM or 3GPP specification (if any). This precedence rule applies to any references in the corresponding GSM or 3GPP specifications.

NOTE: Any references to GSM or 3GPP specifications within the GMR specifications are not subject to this precedence rule. For example, a GMR specification may contain specific references to the corresponding GSM or 3GPP specification.

- If a GMR specification does not exist, the corresponding GSM or 3GPP specification may or may not apply. The applicability of the GSM or 3GPP specifications is defined in ETSI TS 101 376-1-2 [2].

1 Scope

1.1 General

The present document specifies procedures for the following layers of the radio interface (*Um* reference point), the interface between the GSM/EDGE Radio Access Network (GERAN) and the Mobile Station (MS) in GERAN *Iu mode*:

- Radio Link Control (RLC).
- Medium Access Control (MAC), including Physical Link Control functions.

1.2 Related documents

The following documents provide information related to the present document:

- ETSI TS 101 376-3-23 [9] is an overall description of the GSM/EDGE Radio Access Network (GERAN) in *Iu mode*.
- ETSI TS 101 376-4-4 [3] specifies services offered by the physical layer of the *Um* reference point. It also specifies control channels. RLC and MAC use these services and control channels.
- ETSI TS 101 376-4-7 [13] specifies, in general terms, this protocol's structured functions, its procedures and its relationship with other layers and entities. It also specifies the basic message format and error handling applied by layer 3 protocols.
- ETSI TS 101 376-4-13 [4] specifies the RRC procedures when operating in *Iu mode*.
- ETSI TS 101 376-4-12 [10] specifies RLC/MAC procedures specific to *A/Gb mode* as well as the procedures that are common to both *A/Gb mode* and *Iu mode*. It also specifies the messages and Information Elements for both modes.

1.3 Use of logical control channels

ETSI TS 101 376-5-2 [5] defines the following logical control channels:

- Broadcast Control Channel (BCCH): downlink only, used to broadcast Cell specific information.
- Packet Random Access Channel (PRACH): uplink only, used to request GPRS resources.
- Packet Access Grant Channel (PAGCH): downlink only, used to allocate GPRS resources.
- Packet Associated Control Channel (PACCH): bi-directional, associated with a Temporary Block Flow (TBF).
- Packet Timing advance control channel uplink (PTCCH/U): used to transmit random access bursts to allow estimation of the timing advance for one MS in transfer state.
- Packet Timing advance control channel downlink (PTCCH/D): used to transmit timing advance updates for several MS. One PTCCH/D is paired with several PTCCH/Us.

1.4 Use of logical traffic channels

ETSI TS 101 376-5-2 [5] defines the following logical traffic channels used by RLC and MAC:

- Dedicated Traffic Channel (DTCH): bidirectional, carries encoded speech on a dedicated channel (DCH).
- Packet Data Traffic Channel (PDTCH): downlink or uplink, carries user data.

1.4a Use of transport channels

FLO is not supported in GMR-1 3G.