

# ETSI GS MEC 016 V2.1.1 (2019-04)



## Multi-access Edge Computing (MEC); UE application interface

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# Contents

Intellectual Property Rights .....	5
Foreword.....	5
Modal verbs terminology.....	5
1 Scope .....	6
2 References .....	6
2.1 Normative references .....	6
2.2 Informative references.....	7
3 Definition of terms, symbols and abbreviations.....	7
3.1 Terms.....	7
3.2 Symbols.....	7
3.3 Abbreviations .....	7
4 Overview .....	7
5 Description of the service (informative).....	8
5.1 Sequence diagrams .....	8
5.1.1 Introduction.....	8
5.1.2 User application look-up.....	8
5.1.3 Application context create .....	8
5.1.4 Application context delete .....	9
5.1.5 Application context update .....	9
5.1.6 Receiving notification events.....	10
6 Data model .....	11
6.1 Introduction .....	11
6.2 Resource data types .....	11
6.2.1 Introduction.....	11
6.2.2 Type: ApplicationList.....	11
6.2.3 Type: AppContext .....	12
6.3 Subscription data types.....	13
6.4 Notification data types.....	13
6.4.1 Introduction.....	13
6.4.2 Type: NotificationEvent .....	13
6.5 Referenced structured data types.....	13
7 API definition.....	13
7.1 Introduction .....	13
7.2 Global definitions and resource structure.....	14
7.3 Resource: meAppList.....	14
7.3.1 Description.....	14
7.3.2 Resource definition .....	14
7.3.3 Resource Methods .....	15
7.3.3.1 GET.....	15
7.3.3.2 PUT .....	16
7.3.3.3 PATCH .....	16
7.3.3.4 POST.....	16
7.3.3.5 DELETE .....	16
7.4 Resource: all ueAppContexts .....	16
7.4.1 Description.....	16
7.4.2 Resource definition .....	16
7.4.3 Resource Methods .....	16
7.4.3.1 GET.....	16
7.4.3.2 PUT .....	16
7.4.3.3 PATCH .....	16
7.4.3.4 POST.....	16
7.4.3.5 DELETE .....	17

7.5	Resource: individual ueAppContext.....	17
7.5.1	Description.....	17
7.5.2	Resource definition.....	17
7.5.3	Resource Methods .....	18
7.5.3.1	GET.....	18
7.5.3.2	PUT.....	18
7.5.3.3	PATCH .....	19
7.5.3.4	POST.....	19
7.5.3.5	DELETE .....	19
8	Authentication, authorization and access control.....	19
8.1	Introduction .....	19
8.2	Description .....	20
<b>Annex A (informative): Complementary material for API utilization .....</b>		<b>21</b>
History .....		22

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## Foreword

This Group Specification (GS) has been produced by ETSI Industry Specification Group (ISG) Multi-access Edge Computing (MEC).

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## Modal verbs terminology

In the present document "**shall**", "**shall not**", "**should**", "**should not**", "**may**", "**need not**", "**will**", "**will not**", "**can**" and "**cannot**" are to be interpreted as described in clause 3.2 of the [ETSI Drafting Rules](#) (Verbal forms for the expression of provisions).

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# 1 Scope

The present document contains the specification for the lifecycle management of user applications over the UE application interface. This interface is over the Mx2 reference point between the device application in the UE and the User Application LifeCycle Management Proxy (UALCMP) in the MEC system.

The present document covers the following lifecycle management operations: user application look-up, request for the user application instantiation, and the request for the user application termination. In addition, a mechanism is specified for the exchange of lifecycle management related information between the MEC system and the UE application.

The intended key audience of the present document are the application developers for the MEC system, since the UE application interface provides them with a method to instantiate their applications.

NOTE: User application mobility related lifecycle management operations are not covered by the present document.

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# 2 References

## 2.1 Normative references

References are either specific (identified by date of publication and/or edition number or version number) or non-specific. For specific references, only the cited version applies. For non-specific references, the latest version of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

Referenced documents which are not found to be publicly available in the expected location might be found at <https://docbox.etsi.org/Reference/>.

NOTE: While any hyperlinks included in this clause were valid at the time of publication, ETSI cannot guarantee their long term validity.

The following referenced documents are necessary for the application of the present document.

[1] ETSI GS MEC 010-2: "Mobile Edge Computing (MEC); Mobile Edge Management; Part 2: Application lifecycle, rules and requirements management".

[2] IETF RFC 2818: "HTTP Over TLS".

NOTE: Available at <https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc2818>.

[3] IETF RFC 8446: "The Transport Layer Security (TLS) Protocol Version 1.3".

NOTE: Available at <https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc8446>.

[4] ETSI GS MEC 009: "Multi-access Edge Computing (MEC); General principles for MEC Service APIs".

[5] IETF RFC 6749: "The OAuth 2.0 Authorization Framework".

NOTE: Available at <https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc6749>.

[6] IETF RFC 6750: "The OAuth 2.0 Authorization Framework: Bearer Token Usage".

NOTE: Available at <https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc6750>.

## 2.2 Informative references

References are either specific (identified by date of publication and/or edition number or version number) or non-specific. For specific references, only the cited version applies. For non-specific references, the latest version of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

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The following referenced documents are not necessary for the application of the present document but they assist the user with regard to a particular subject area.

- [i.1] ETSI GS MEC 001: "Multi-access Edge Computing (MEC); Terminology".
- [i.2] ETSI GS MEC 002: "Multi-access Edge Computing (MEC); Phase 2: Use Cases and Requirements".
- [i.3] OpenAPI Specification.

NOTE: Available at <https://github.com/OAI/OpenAPI-Specification>.

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## 3 Definition of terms, symbols and abbreviations

### 3.1 Terms

For the purposes of the present document, the terms given in ETSI GS MEC 001 [i.1] and the following apply:

**user application lifecycle management proxy:** system level functional element that allows specific and authorized requests from the device application for the user application lifecycle management

### 3.2 Symbols

Void.

### 3.3 Abbreviations

For the purposes of the present document, the abbreviations given in ETSI GS MEC 001 [i.1] and the following apply:

AA	Authentication and Authorization
API	Application Programming Interface
OSS	Operations Support System
TLS	Transport Layer Security
UALCMP	User Application LifeCycle Management Proxy
UE	User Equipment
URI	Uniform Resource Identifier

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## 4 Overview

The present document specifies the API for the UE application interface to support the corresponding requirements defined for the Multi-access Edge Computing in ETSI GS MEC 002 [i.2].

Clause 5 describes how the UE application interface can be used by the device application and by the MEC system. It describes the information flows for the procedures over the UE application interface.

The information that is exchanged over the UE application interface is described in clause 6, providing detailed description of all information elements available on that interface.

Clause 7 describes the actual API of the UE application interface, providing detailed information how the information elements map into the RESTful API design of the interface.

Clause 8 describes the authentication, authorization and access control for the UE application interface.

## 5 Description of the service (informative)

### 5.1 Sequence diagrams

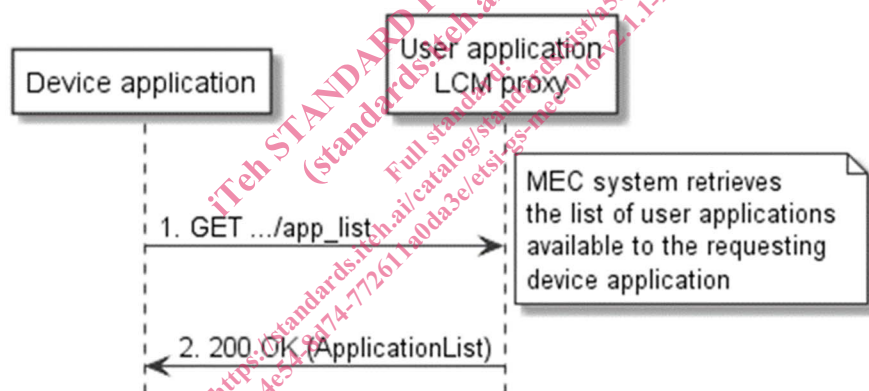
#### 5.1.1 Introduction

The following clauses describe how the device application interacts with the UALCMP over the UE application interface. The sequence diagrams that are relevant for the UE application interface are presented.

The device application presents the access token to the UALCMP with every request in order to assert that it is allowed to access the resource with the particular method it invokes. The access token is included in the "Authorization" request header field as a bearer token according to IETF RFC 6750 [6].

#### 5.1.2 User application look-up

The user application look-up is the procedure for requesting the list of available user applications in the MEC system to the requesting device application. The user application look-up procedure is illustrated in figure 5.1.2-1.



**Figure 5.1.2-1: User application look-up**

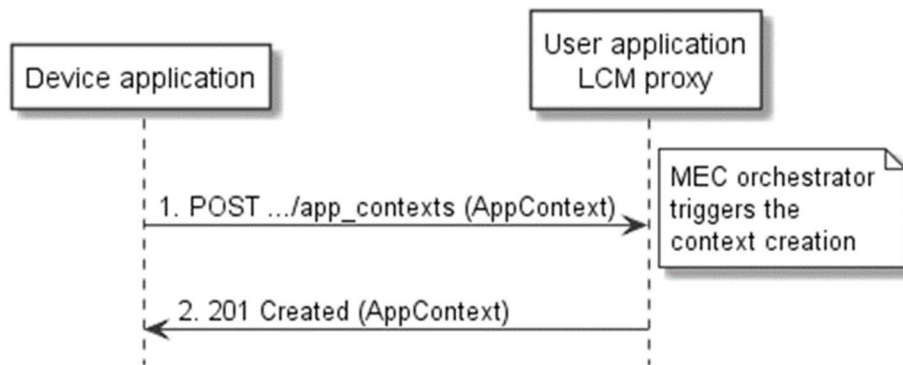
- 1) The device application submits the GET request to the UALCMP. The UALCMP authorizes the request from device application. The MEC system retrieves the list of user applications available to the requesting device application.
- 2) The UALCMP returns the 200 OK response to the device application, with the message body containing the data structure for the list of available user applications.

#### 5.1.3 Application context create

The application context create is the procedure to request either to join with an available user application or to instantiate a new user application. The application context create procedure is illustrated in figure 5.1.3-1.

As part of the user application instantiation, the MEC system will create an associated application context that the MEC system maintains for the lifetime of the user application. The application context contains information specific to the application instance such as its unique identifier within the MEC system and the address (URI) provided for clients that are external to the MEC system to interact with the user application.



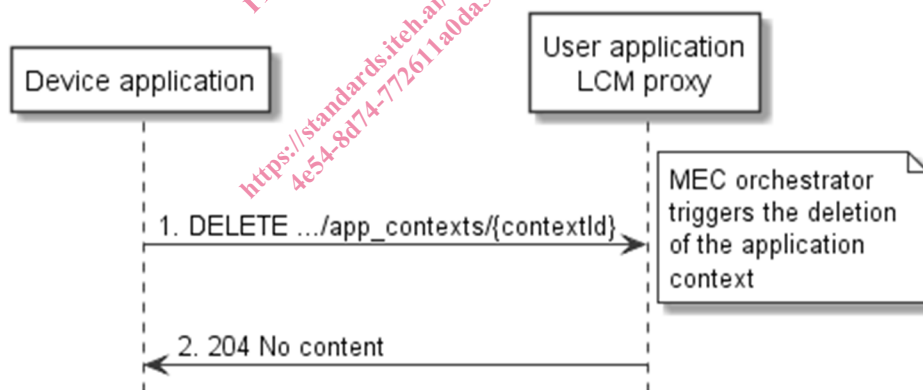


**Figure 5.1.3-1: Application context create**

- 1) The device application submits the POST request to the UALCMP. The message body contains the data structure for the application context to be created.
- 2) The UALCMP authorizes the request from the device application. The request is forwarded to the OSS. The OSS makes the decision on granting the context creation request. The MEC orchestrator triggers the creation of the application context in the MEC system.
- 3) The UALCMP returns the 201 Created response to the device application with the message body containing the data structure of the created application context, which includes the address (reference URI) provided for clients that are external to the MEC system to interact with the user application. The response message header contains the address of the resource relating to the application instance context created and maintained by the MEC system.

#### 5.1.4 Application context delete

The application context delete is a procedure in which the device application requests the deletion of the application context. The application context delete procedure is illustrated in figure 5.1.4-1.

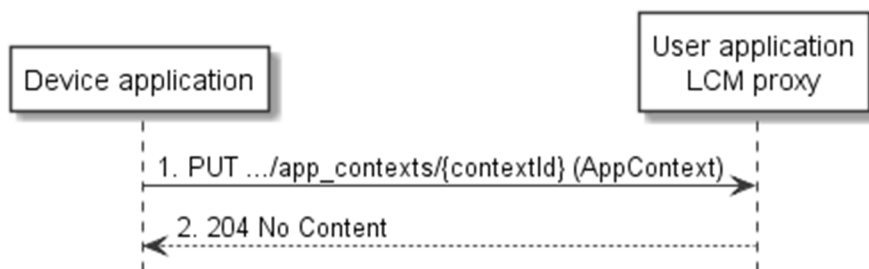


**Figure 5.1.4-1: Application context delete**

- 1) The device application submits the DELETE request to the UALCMP for the application context to be deleted.
- 2) The UALCMP authorizes the request from device application. The request is forwarded to the OSS. The OSS makes the decision on granting the deletion. The MEC orchestrator triggers the deletion of the application context, including deletion of the resource maintained by the MEC system that represents it.
- 3) The UALCMP returns "204 No content" response.

#### 5.1.5 Application context update

The UALCMP is provided with an update of the application context. The procedure is illustrated in figure 5.1.5-1.

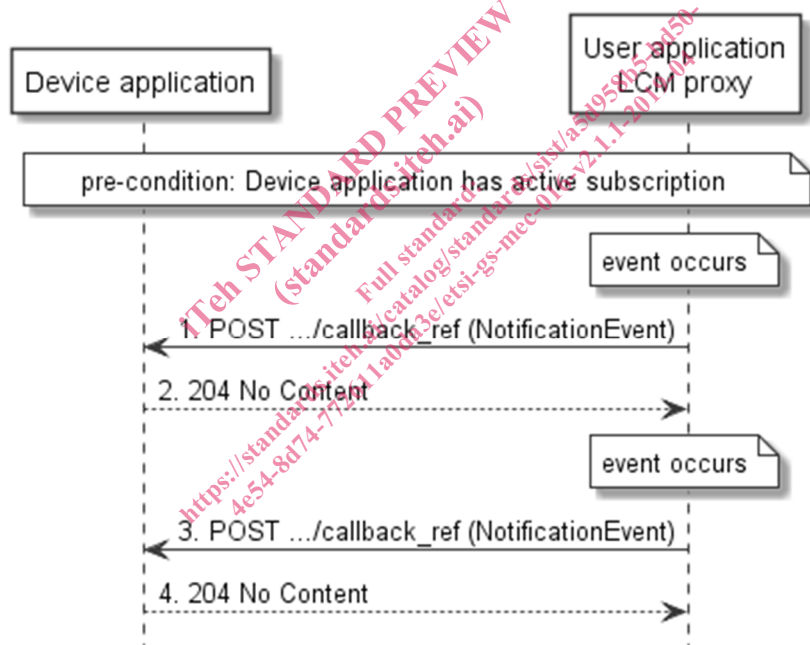


**Figure 5.1.5-1: Application context update**

- 1) The device application updates a specific application context by sending a PUT request to the resource within the MEC system that represents it, with the message body containing the modified data structure of AppContext in which only the callback reference may be updated.
- 2) The UALCMP returns a "204 No Content" response.

### 5.1.6 Receiving notification events

Figure 5.1.6-1 presents the scenario where the UALCMP sends notification events to the device application.



**Figure 5.1.6-1: Flow of receiving notification events**

Receiving notification events, as illustrated in figure 5.1.6-1, consists of the following steps:

- 1) The UALCMP sends a POST message to the callback reference address provided by the device application as part of application context creation, with the message body containing the notification event, indicating for instance a modification to the address of the user application.
- 2) The device application sends a "204 No Content" response to the UALCMP.