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**LTE;
General Packet Radio Service (GPRS)
enhancements for Evolved Universal Terrestrial
Radio Access Network (E-UTRAN) access
(3GPP TS 23.401 version 18.6.0 Release 18)**

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Foreword

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

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1 Scope

The present document defines the Stage 2 service description for the Evolved 3GPP Packet Switched Domain - also known as the Evolved Packet System (EPS) in this document. The Evolved 3GPP Packet Switched Domain provides IP connectivity using the Evolved Universal Terrestrial Radio Access Network (E-UTRAN).

The specification covers both roaming and non-roaming scenarios and covers all aspects, including mobility between E-UTRAN and pre-E-UTRAN 3GPP radio access technologies, policy control and charging, and authentication.

The Radio Access Network functionality is documented only to the extent necessary to describe the overall system. TS 36.300 [5] contains the overall description of the Evolved Universal Terrestrial Radio Access (E-UTRA) and Evolved Universal Terrestrial Radio Access Network (E-UTRAN).

ITU-T Recommendation I.130 [3] describes a three-stage method for characterisation of telecommunication services, and ITU-T Recommendation Q.65 [4] defines Stage 2 of the method.

TS 23.402 [2] is a companion specification to this specification.

An Evolved Packet System architecture optimised for the support of Cellular IoT (Internet of Things) applications is also defined in this document.

The Evolved Packet System also provides support for the E-UTRAN to control a Dual Connectivity radio connection that uses a combination of E-UTRA and another radio access technology (e.g. NR). TS 36.300 [5] contains the overall description for Dual Connectivity.

Enhancements to support interworking of EPS with 5GS are captured in TS 23.501 [83] and TS 23.502 [84].

2 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 21.905: "Vocabulary for 3GPP Specifications".
- [2] 3GPP TS 23.402: "Architecture enhancements for non-3GPP accesses".
- [3] ITU-T Recommendation I.130: "Method for the characterization of telecommunication services supported by an ISDN and network capabilities of an ISDN".
- [4] ITU-T Recommendation Q.65: "The unified functional methodology for the characterization of services and network capabilities".
- [5] 3GPP TS 36.300: "Evolved Universal Terrestrial Radio Access (E-UTRA) and Evolved Universal Terrestrial Radio Access Network (E-UTRAN); Overall description; Stage 2".
- [6] 3GPP TS 23.203: "Policy and charging control architecture".
- [7] 3GPP TS 23.060: "General Packet Radio Service (GPRS); Service description; Stage 2".
- [8] 3GPP TS 43.129: "Packet-switched handover for GERAN A/Gb mode; Stage 2".
- [9] 3GPP TS 23.003: "Numbering, addressing and identification".
- [10] 3GPP TS 23.122: "Non-Access-Stratum (NAS) functions related to Mobile Station in idle mode".