





# Indian Telecom Security Assurance Requirements (ITSAR) भारतीय दूरसंचार सुरक्षा आश्वासन आवश्यकताएँ (भा.दू.सु.आ.आ.)

## Security Edge Protection Proxy (SEPP) of 5G

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401

ITSAR Name: NCCS/ITSAR/Core Equipment/Security Edge Protection Proxy (SEPP) of 5G

Date of Release: 19.01.2024 Version: 1.0.1

Date of Enforcement:

© रा.सं.सु.कें., २०२३ © NCCS, 2023

MTCTE के तहत जारी: Issued under MTCTE by:

राष्ट्रीय संचार सुरक्षा केंद्र (रा.सं.सु.कें.) दूरसंचार विभाग, संचार मंत्रालय भारत सरकार सिटी दूरभाष केंद्र, एसआर नगर, बैंगलोर-५६००२७, भारत

Issued by

National Centre for Communication Security (NCCS)

Department of Telecommunications

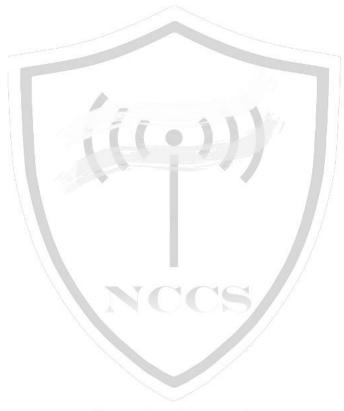
Ministry of Communications

Government of India

City Telephone Exchange, SR Nagar, Bangalore-560027, India

### **About NCCS**

National Centre for communication Security (NCCS), with headquarters at Bengaluru was set up in 2018 with the objective to establish and operationalize a framework of security testing and certification within the country. NCCS is mandated to prepare Telecom security requirements/standards called Indian Telecom Security Assurance Requirements (ITSAR) that addresses the country specific security needs in telecommunication landscape and notify the same.

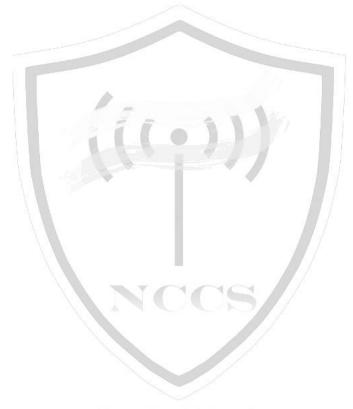


Securing Networks

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 1 of 56

## **Document History**

Sr. No.	Title	ITSAR No.	Version	Date of Release	Remark
1	Security Edge Protection	ITSAR111192209	1.0.0	30.09.2022	First
1 1	Proxy (SEPP) of 5G	TISANTITI SZZOS	1.0.0	30.03.2022	release
2	Security Edge Protection	ITSAR111192401	1.0.1	19.01.2024	Editorial
	Proxy (SEPP) of 5G	115AK111192401			Changes



Securing Networks

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 2 of 56

## **Table of Contents**

A) Outline	<del>6</del>
B) Scope	E
C) Conventions	E
Chapter 1 – Overview	7
Chapter 2 – Common Security Requirements	10
Section 1: Access and Authorization	10
2.1.1 Management Protocols Mutual Authentication	10
2.1.2 Management Traffic Protection	10
2.1.3 Role-based access control policy	10
2.1.4. User Authentication – Local/Remote	11
2.1.5 Remote login restrictions for privileged users	
2.1.6 Authorization Policy	11
2.1.7 Unambiguous identification of the user & group accounts removal	12
Section 2: Authentication Attribute Management	12
2.2.1 Authentication Policy	12
2.2.2 Authentication Support – External	
2.2.3 Protection against brute force and dictionary attacks	13
2.2.4 Enforce Strong Password	13
2.2.5 Inactive Session timeout	14
2.2.6 Password Changes	14
2.2.7 Protected Authentication feedback	15
2.2.8 Removal of predefined or default authentication attributes	
2.2.9 Logout function	15
2.2.10 Policy regarding consecutive failed login attempts	16
Section 3: Software Security	
2.3.1 Secure Update	16
2.3.2 Secure Upgrade	
2.3.3 Source code security assurance	17
2.3.4 Known Malware and backdoor Check	18
2.3.5 No unused software	18
2.3.6 Unnecessary Services Removal	18
2.3.7 Restricting System Boot Source	19
2.3.8 Secure Time Synchronization	19
2.3.9 Restricted reachability of services	19
2.3.10 Self Testing	19
Section 4: System Secure Execution Environment	20
2.4.1 No unused functions	20
2.4.2 No unsupported components	20
2.4.3 Avoidance of Unspecified mode of Access	
Section 5: User Audit	21
2.5.1 Audit trail storage and protection	21
2.5.2 Audit Event Generation	21

2.5.3 Secure Log Export	24
2.5.4 Logging access to personal data	25
Section 6: Data Protection	25
2.6.1 Cryptographic Based Secure Communication	25
2.6.2 Cryptographic Module Security Assurance	25
2.6.3 Cryptographic Algorithms implementation Security Assurance	25
2.6.4 Protecting data and information – Confidential System Internal Data	26
2.6.5 Protecting data and information in storage	26
2.6.6 Protection against Copy of Data	
2.6.7 Protection against Data Exfiltration - Overt Channel	
2.6.8 Protection against Data Exfiltration - Covert Channel	27
Section 7: Network Services	
2.7.1 Traffic Filtering – Network Level Requirement	
2.7.2 Traffic Separation	
2.7.3 Traffic Protection –Anti-Spoofing	28
2.7.4 GTP-C Filtering (when 5GC is interworking with EPC)	29
2.7.5 GTP-U Filtering	
Section 8: Attack Prevention Mechanisms	
2.8.1 Network Level and application-level DDoS	
2.8.2 Excessive Overload Protection	
2.8.3 Manipulated packets that are sent to an address of the network device sh	
to an impairment of availability	
Section 9: Vulnerability Testing Requirements	
2.9.1 Fuzzing – Network and Application Level	
2.9.2 Port Scanning	
2.9.3 Vulnerability Scanning	32
Section 10: Operating System	
2.10.1 Growing Content Handling	
2.10.2 Handling of ICMP	
2.10.3 Authenticated Privilege Escalation only	34
2.10.4 System account identification	34
2.10.5 OS Hardening - Minimized kernel network functions	
2.10.6 No automatic launch of removable media	
2.10.7 Protection from buffer overflows	
2.10.8 External file system mount restrictions	
2.10.9 File-system Authorization privileges	
2.10.10 SYN Flood Prevention	
2.10.11 Handling of IP options and extensions	
2.10.12 Restrictions on running Scripts / Batch-processes	
2.10.13 Restrictions on Soft-Restart	
Section 11: Web Servers	
2.11.1 HTTPS	
2.11.2 Webserver logging	
2.11.3 HTTPS input validation	37

2.11.4 No system privileges	37
2.11.5 No unused HTTPS methods	37
2.11.6 No unused add-ons	38
2.11.7 No compiler, interpreter, or shell via CGI or other server-side scripting	38
2.11.8 No CGI or other scripting for uploads	38
2.11.9 No execution of system commands with SSI	38
2.11.10 Access rights for web server configuration	38
2.11.11 No default content	39
2.11.12 No directory listings	39
2.11.13 Web server information in HTTPS headers	39
2.11.14 Web server information in error pages	39
2.11.15 Minimized file type mappings	40
2.11.16 Restricted file access	40
2.11.17 Execute rights exclusive for CGI/Scripting directory	40
2.11.18 HTTP User session	40
Section 12: General SBA/SBI Aspects	41
2.12.1 No code execution or inclusion of external resources by JSON parsers	41
2.12.2 Validation of the unique key values in IEs	
2.12.3 Validation of the IEs limits	42
2.12.4 Protection at the transport layer	42
2.12.5 Authorization token verification failure handling within one PLMN	42
2.12.6 Authorization token verification failure handling in different PLMNs	43
Section 13: Other Security requirements	
2.13.1 Remote Diagnostic Procedure – Verification	
2.13.2 No System Password Recovery	43
2.13.3 Secure System Software Revocation	
2.13.4 Software Integrity Check –Installation	44
2.13.5 Software Integrity Check – Boot	44
2.13.6 Unused Physical and Logical Interfaces Disabling	44
2.13.7 No Default Profile	
Chapter 3 – Specific Security Requirements	46
Section: 1	46
3.1.1 Correct handling of cryptographic material of peer SEPPs and IPX providers	46
3.1.2 Connection-specific scope of cryptographic material by IPX-providers	46
3.1.3 Correct handling of serving PLMN ID mismatch	46
3.1.4 Confidential IEs replacement handling in original N32-f message	46
3.1.5 Correct handling of protection policy mismatch	47
3.1.6 JWS profile restriction	47
3.1.7 No misplacement of encrypted IEs in JSON object by IPX	47
Annexure-I	48
Annexure-II	51
Annexure-III	55
Annexure-IV	56

### A) Outline

The objective of this document is to present a comprehensive, country-specific security requirements for the Security Edge Protection Proxy (SEPP) network function of 5G Core. The SEPP, located at the edge of 5G Core network, securely interconnects 5G networks.

The specifications produced by various regional/ international standardization bodies/ organizations/associations like 3GPP, ITU-T, ISO, ETSI, IEEE, IETF, NGMN, O-RAN, TIP, IRTF, GSMA, TSDSI along with the country-specific security requirements are the basis for this document. The TEC/TSDSI references made in this document implies that the respective clause has been adopted as it is or with certain modifications.

This document commences with a brief description of 5G system architecture, SEPP and its functionalities and then proceeds to address the common and entity specific security requirements of SEPP.

### B) Scope

This document targets on the security requirements of the 5G Core Security Edge Protection Proxy network function (SEPP) as defined by 3GPP. This document does not cover the security requirements at the virtualization and infrastructure layers.

Remote Access regulations are governed by Licensing Wing of DoT.

### **C)** Conventions

- 1. Must or shall or required denotes the absolute requirement of a particular clause of ITSAR.
- 2. Must not or shall not denote absolute prohibition of a particular clause of ITSAR.
- 3. Should or recommended denotes that the particular clause of ITSAR may be ignored under justifiable circumstances but after careful examination of its implications.
- 4. Should not or not Recommended denotes the opposite meaning of (3) above.

Securing Networks

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 6 of 56

### **Chapter 1 – Overview**

**Introduction**: The fifth generation of mobile technologies - 5G - is expected to connect people, things, data, applications, transport systems and cities in a smart networked communication environment. 5G is standardized by the 3rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP) and the requirement framework for 5G are specified by ITU under IMT-2020. The usage scenario/use cases identified for 5G are i) Enhanced Mobile Broadband (eMBB) ii) Massive Machine Type Communication (mMTC) and iii) Ultra Reliable and Low Latency Communications (URLLC).

**5G Architecture**: The generic 5G system (5GS) architecture consists of User Equipment, Radio Access Network supporting New Radio (NR) and the cloud-native 5G core networks (5G-CN). 5G base station is called as Next Generation Node B (gNB). The deployment strategies possible are Non-Stand Alone (NSA) and Stand Alone (SA). SA denotes 5G NR connecting to 5G CN. In NSA mode, 5G NR gets connected to 4G EPC but uses LTE as anchor in control plane.

**5G Core Network**: Core network is the central part of mobile network. 5G Core network provides authentication, security, mobility management, session management services and enables the subscribers to avail the services. These functionalities are specified as "network functions". Some of the important core network functions are 1) AMF 2) SMF 3) AuSF 4) UPF 5) AF 6) NEF 7) NRF 8) PCF 9) UDM 10) UDR

The salient features of 5G Core are

- 1) Separation of user plane and control plane
- 2) Service Based Architecture (SBA)
- 3) Network Slicing
- 4) Network function virtualization and Software Define Networking
- 5) Automation
- 6) Access Agnostic
- 7) Framework for policy control and support of QoS
- 8) Secure exposure of network functions to 3<sup>rd</sup> party providers

In an SBA framework, the individual elements are defined as Network Functions (NFs) instead of Network entities. Through Service Based Interface (SBI) each of the NFs consumes services offered by other service producer-other NFs. RESTful APIs are used in 5G SBA which use HTTP/2 as application layer protocol.

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 7 of 56

**Security Edge Protection Proxy Function (SEPP)**: The Security Edge Protection Proxy (SEPP) is a non-transparent proxy and supports the following functionality:

Message filtering and policing on inter-PLMN control plane interfaces.

NOTE: The SEPP protects the connection between Service Consumers and Service Producers from a security perspective, i.e., the SEPP does not duplicate the Service Authorization applied by the Service Producers.

- Topology hiding.

The SEPP applies the above functionality to every Control Plane message in inter-PLMN signaling, acting as a service relay between the actual Service Producer and the actual Service Consumer. For both Service Producer and Consumer, the result of the service relaying is equivalent to a direct service interaction. Every Control Plane message in inter- PLMN signaling between the SEPPs may pass via IPX entities.

**Roaming Reference Architecture**: Figure 1 depicts the 5G System roaming architecture with local breakout with service-based interfaces within the Control Plane.

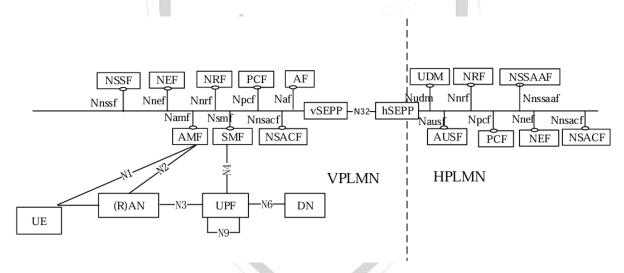


Figure 1: Roaming 5G System architecture- LBO scenario in SBI representation

Securing Networks

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 8 of 56

Figure 2 below portrays the 5G System roaming architecture in the case of home routed scenario with service-based interfaces within the Control Plane.

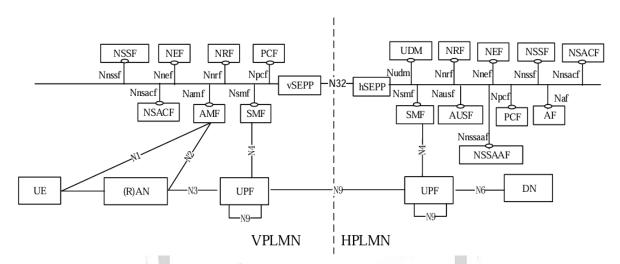


Figure 2: Roaming 5G System architecture - home routed scenario in service-based interface representation



ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401

### **Chapter 2 – Common Security Requirements**

#### **Section 1: Access and Authorization**

#### 2.1.1 Management Protocols Mutual Authentication

#### Requirement:

The network product management shall support mutual authentication mechanisms, the mutual authentication mechanism can rely on the protocol used for the interface itself or other means.

Secure cryptographic controls prescribed in Table 1 of the latest document "Cryptographic Controls for Indian Telecom Security Assurance Requirements (ITSAR)" shall only be used for SEPP management and maintenance.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 /TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.3.4.4.1]

#### 2.1.2 Management Traffic Protection

#### Requirement:

SEPP management traffic shall be protected strictly using secure cryptographic controls prescribed in Table 1 of the latest document "Cryptographic Controls for Indian Telecom Security Assurance Requirements (ITSAR)" only.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.3.2.4]

#### 2.1.3 Role-based access control policy

#### Requirement:

SEPP shall support Role-Based Access Control (RBAC). A role-based access control system uses a set of controls that determines how users interact with domains and resources. The RBAC system controls how users or groups of users are allowed access to the various domains and what type of operation they can perform, i.e., the specific operation command or command group (e.g., View, Modify, Execute). SEPP supports RBAC with minimum of 3 user roles, in particular, for OAM privilege management for SEPP Management and Maintenance, including authorization of the operation for configuration data and software via the network product console interface.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.3.4.6.2]

Note: The reference to Console interface may not be applicable here for GVNP Models of Type

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 10 of 56

#### 2.1.4. User Authentication – Local/Remote

#### Requirement:

The various user and machine accounts on a system shall be protected from misuse. To this end, an authentication attribute is typically used, which, when combined with the username, enables unambiguous authentication and identification of the authorized user.

Authentication attributes include

- Cryptographic keys
- Token
- Passwords

This means that authentication based on a parameter that can be spoofed is not permitted. Exceptions are attributes that cannot be faked or spoofed by an attacker.

Minimum two of the above Authentication attributes shall be mandatorily combined for protecting all the accounts from misuse. An exception to this requirement is local access and machine accounts where at-least one authentication attribute shall be supported.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.3.4.2.1]

Note: Local interface may not be applicable here for GVNP Models of Type 1 & 2.

#### 2.1.5 Remote login restrictions for privileged users

#### Requirement:

Direct Login to SEPP as root or equivalent highest privileged user shall be limited to the system console only. Root user will not be allowed to login to SEPP remotely.

This remote root user access restriction is also applicable to application software's / tools such as TeamViewer, desktop sharing which provide remote access to the SEPP.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.3.2.6]

#### 2.1.6 Authorization Policy

#### Requirement:

The authorizations for accounts and applications shall be reduced to the minimum required for the tasks they have to perform.

Authorizations to a system shall be restricted to a level in which a user can only access data and use functions that he needs in the course of his work. Suitable authorizations shall also be

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 11 of 56

assigned for access to files that are components of the operating system or of applications or that are generated by the same (e.g., configuration and logging files).

Alongside access to data, execution of applications and components shall also take place with rights that are as low as possible. Applications should not be executed with administrator or system rights.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.3.4.6.1]

#### 2.1.7 Unambiguous identification of the user & group accounts removal

#### Requirement:

Users shall be identified unambiguously by the SEPP.

SEPP shall support the assignment of individual accounts per user, where a user could be a person, or, for Machine Accounts, an application, or a system.

SEPP shall not enable the use of group accounts or group credentials or sharing of the same account between several users.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.3.4.1.2]

### **Section 2: Authentication Attribute Management**

#### 2.2.1 Authentication Policy

#### Requirement:

The usage of a system function without successful authentication on basis of the user identity and at least two authentication attributes (e.g. password, certificate) shall be prevented. For machine accounts and local access one authentication attribute will be sufficient. System functions comprise, for example network services (like SSH, SFTP, Web services), local access via a management console, local usage of operating system and applications. This requirement shall also be applied to accounts that are only used for communication between systems.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.3.4.1.1]

Note: The reference to 'Local accesses and 'Console' may not be applicable here for GVNP Models of Type 1 & 2.

#### 2.2.2 Authentication Support – External

#### Requirement:

If the SEPP supports external authentication mechanism such as AAA server (for authentication, authorization and accounting services), then the communication between SEPP and the external authentication entity shall be protected using the authentication and related service

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 12 of 56

protocols built strictly using the Secure cryptographic controls prescribed in Table 1 of the latest document "Cryptographic Controls For Indian Telecom Security Assurance Requirements (ITSAR)" only.

#### 2.2.3 Protection against brute force and dictionary attacks

#### Requirement:

A protection against brute force and dictionary attacks that hinder authentication attribute guessing shall be implemented in SEPP.

Brute force and dictionary attacks aim to use automated guessing to ascertain authentication attribute for user and machine accounts.

Various measures or a combination of the following measures can be taken to prevent this:

- a) Using the timer delay (this delay could be the same or increased depending on the operator's policy for each attempt) for each newly entered password input following an incorrect entry ("tar pit").
- b) Blocking an account following a specified number of incorrect attempts. However, it has to be taken into account that this solution needs a process for unlocking and an attacker can force this to deactivate accounts and make them unusable.
- c) Using an authentication attribute blacklist to prevent vulnerable passwords.
- d) Using CAPTCHA to prevent automated attempts (often used for Web applications).

In order to achieve higher security, two or more of the measures indicated above shall be mandatorily supported by SEPP. An exception to this requirement is machine accounts.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.3.4.3.3]

#### 2.2.4 Enforce Strong Password

#### Requirement:

- a) The configuration setting shall be such that SEPP shall only accept passwords that comply with the following complexity criteria:
  - i) Absolute minimum length of 8 characters (shorter lengths shall be rejected by the SEPP). It shall not be possible setting this absolute minimum length to a lower value by configuration.
  - ii) Password shall mandatorily comprise all the following four categories of characters:
    - at least 1 uppercase character (A-Z)
    - at least 1 lowercase character (a-z)
    - at least 1 digit (0-9)
    - at least 1 special character (e.g. @;!\$.)
- b) The minimum length of characters in the passwords and the set of allowable special characters shall be configurable by the operator. The special characters may be categorized

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 13 of 56

- in sets according to their Unicode category.
- c) If a central system is used for user authentication password policy, then additional assurance shall be provided that the central system enforces the same password complexity rules as laid down for the local system in this sub-clause.
- d) If a central system is not used for user authentication, the assurance on password complexity rules shall be performed on the SEPP.
- e) When a user is changing a password or entering a new password, SEPP /central system checks and ensures that it meets the password requirements. Above requirements shall be applicable for all passwords used (e.g., application-level, OS-level, etc.).

Password shall not be stored in clear text in the system; passwords shall be salted and hashed.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.3.4.3.1]

#### 2.2.5 Inactive Session timeout

#### Requirement:

An OAM user interactive session shall be terminated automatically after a specified period of inactivity. It shall be possible to configure an inactivity time-out period.

SEPP shall monitor inactive sessions of administrative login users and initiate session locking mechanism based on user configurable timers. Unlocking the session shall be permissible only by authentication. If the inactivity period further continues for a defined period, Session /user ID time out must occur after this inactivity.

The timer values can be admin configurable as per requirement, normally set between 2 to 5 minutes.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.3.5.2]

#### 2.2.6 Password Changes

#### Requirement:

If a password is used as an authentication attribute, then the system shall offer a function that enables a user to change his password at any time. When an external centralized system for user authentication is used, it should be possible to implement this function on this system.

Password change shall be enforced after initial login.

SEPP shall enforce password change based on password management policy.

In particular, the system shall enforce password expiry. SEPP shall support a configurable period for expiry of passwords.

Previously used passwords shall not be allowed up to a certain number (Password History).

The number of disallowed previously used passwords shall be:

- Configurable;
- Greater than 0;

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page **14** of **56**  • And its minimum value shall be 3. This means that the SEPP shall store at least the three previously set passwords. The maximum number of passwords that the SEPP can store for each user is up to the manufacturer.

When a password is about to expire, a password expiry notification shall be provided to the user.

Above requirements shall be applicable for all passwords used (e.g., application-level, OS- level, etc.). An exception to this requirement is machine accounts.

SEPP to have in-built mechanism to support this requirement.

If a central system is used for user authentication password policy, then additional assurance shall be provided that the central system enforces the same password change policies as laid down for the local system in this subclause.

And if a central system is not used for user authentication, the assurance on password changes rules shall be performed on the SEPP.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.3.4.3.2]

### 2.2.7 Protected Authentication feedback

#### Requirement:

The Authentication attribute shall not be displayed in such a way that it could be seen and misused by a casual local observer. Typically, the individual characters of the password are replaced by a character such as "\*".

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.3.4.3.4]

#### 2.2.8 Removal of predefined or default authentication attributes

#### Requirement:

Predefined or default authentication attributes shall be deleted or disabled.

Normally, authentication attributes such as password or cryptographic keys will be preconfigured from producer, OEM or developer of a system. Such authentication attributes shall be changed by automatically forcing a user to change it on 1<sup>st</sup> time login to the system or the OEM provides instructions on how to manually change it.

Securing Networks

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.3.4.2.3]

#### 2.2.9 Logout function

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 15 of 56

#### Requirement:

The system shall have a function that allows a signed-in user to logout at any time. All processes under the logged-in user ID shall be terminated on logout. The network product shall be able to continue to operate without interactive sessions.

Only for debugging purposes, processes under a logged-in user ID may be allowed to continue to run after detaching the interactive session.

[Reference: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.3.5.1]

#### 2.2.10 Policy regarding consecutive failed login attempts

#### Requirement:

- a) The maximum permissible number of consecutive failed user account login attempts should be configurable by the operator. The definition of the default value set at manufacturing time for the maximum number of failed user account login attempts shall be less than or equal to 8, typically 5. After the maximum permissible number of consecutive failed user account login attempts is exceeded by a user, there shall be a block delay in allowing the user to attempt login again. This block delay and the capability to set the period of the block delay, e.g., double the delay, or 5 minutes delay, or 10 minutes delay, after each login failure should be configurable by the operator. The default value set at manufacturing time for this delay shall be greater than or equal to 5 sec.
- b) If supported, infinite (permanent) locking of an account that has exceeded the maximum permissible number of consecutive failed user account login attempts should also be possible via configuration, with the exception of administrative accounts, which shall get only temporarily locked.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.3.4.5]

### **Section 3: Software Security**

#### 2.3.1 Secure Update

## Securing Networks

#### Requirement:

- a) Software package integrity shall be validated during software update stage.
- b) SEPP shall support software package integrity validation via cryptographic means, e.g., digital signature using Secure cryptographic controls prescribed in Table 1 of the latest document "Cryptographic Controls for Indian Telecom Security Assurance Requirements (ITSAR)" only. To this end, the network product has a list of public keys or certificates of authorized software sources and uses the keys to verify that the software update is originated from only these sources.
- c) Tampered software shall not be executed or installed if integrity check fails.
- d) A security mechanism is required to guarantee that only authorized individuals can initiate

ITSAR Number: **ITSAR111192401** Page **16** of **56** 

and deploy a software update, and modify the list mentioned in bullet (b). Note: Code signing (valid and not time expired) is also allowed as an option in bullet (b).

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.3.3.5]

#### 2.3.2 Secure Upgrade

### Requirement:

- a) Software package integrity shall be validated during software upgrade stage.
- b) SEPP shall support software package integrity validation via cryptographic means, e.g., digital signature using Secure cryptographic controls prescribed in Table 1 of the latest document "Cryptographic Controls for Indian Telecom Security Assurance Requirements (ITSAR)" only. To this end, the network product has a list of public keys or certificates of authorized software sources and uses the keys to verify that the software update is originated from only these sources.
- c) Tampered software shall not be executed or installed if integrity check fails.
- d) A security mechanism is required to guarantee that only authorized individuals can initiate and deploy a software upgrade, and modify the list mentioned in bullet (b).

Note: Code signing (valid and not time expired) is also allowed as an option in bullet (b).

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.3.3.5]

#### 2.3.3 Source code security assurance

#### Requirement:

- a) OEM shall follow best security practices including secure coding for software development. Source code shall be made available either at TSTL premises or at the mutually agreed location for source code review by the designated TSTL. It may be supported by furnishing the Software Test Document (STD).
- b) Also, OEM shall submit the undertaking as below:
  - i) Industry standard best practices of secure coding have been followed during the entire software development life cycle of the SEPP Software which includes OEM developed code, third party software and opensource code libraries used/embedded in the SEPP.
  - ii) SEPP software shall be free from CWE top 25, OWASP top 10 security vulnerabilities and OWASP top 10 API Security vulnerabilities as on the date of latest release of product or three months prior to the date of offer of product for testing, whichever is latest. For security weaknesses, vulnerabilities identified or discovered during the interim period, OEM shall give mitigation plan.
  - iii) The binaries for SEPP and upgrades/updates thereafter generated from the source code are free from all known security vulnerabilities stated in bullet (ii) above.

ITSAR Number: **ITSAR111192401** Page **17** of **56** 

#### 2.3.4 Known Malware and backdoor Check

#### Requirement:

OEM shall submit an undertaking stating that SEPP is free from all known malware and backdoors as on the date of offer of SEPP to designated TSTL for testing and shall submit their internal Malware Test Document (MTD) of the SEPP to the designated TSTL.

#### 2.3.5 No unused software

#### Requirement:

Software components or parts of software which are not needed for operation or functionality of the SEPP shall not be present.

Orphaned software components /packages shall not be present in SEPP.

OEM shall provide the list of software that are necessary for SEPP's operation.

In addition, OEM shall furnish an undertaking as "SEPP does not contain Software that is not used in the functionality of SEPP."

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.3.2.3]

### 2.3.6 Unnecessary Services Removal

#### Requirement:

SEPP shall only run protocol handlers and services which are needed for its operation and which do not have any known security vulnerabilities. By default, all other ports and services will be permanently disabled. SEPP Shall not support following services:

Securing Networks

- FTP
- TFTP
- Telnet
- rlogin, RCP, RSH
- HTTP
- SNMPv1 and v2
- SSHv1
- TCP/UDP Small Servers (Echo, Chargen, Discard and Daytime)
- Finger
- BOOTP server
- Discovery protocols (CDP, LLDP)
- IP Identification Service (Identd)
- PAD
- MOP

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 18 of 56

Any other protocols, services that are vulnerable are also to be permanently disabled. Full documentation of required protocols and services (communication matrix) of the SEPP and their purpose needs to be provided by the OEM as prerequisite for the test case.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.3.2.1]

#### 2.3.7 Restricting System Boot Source

#### Requirement:

The SEPP can boot only from the memory devices intended for this purpose.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section- 4.2.3.3.2]

Note: This may not be applicable here for GVNP Models of Type 1 & 2.

#### 2.3.8 Secure Time Synchronization

#### Requirement:

SEPP shall establish secure communication channel with the NTP/PTP server.

SEPP shall establish secure communication channel strictly using Secure cryptographic controls prescribed in Table 1 of the latest document "Cryptographic Controls for Indian Telecom Security Assurance Requirements (ITSAR)" with NTP/PTP server.

SEPP shall generate audit logs for all changes to time settings.

Note: RFC 8915 which proposes Network Time Security (NTS) as an extension field for the NTP version 4 is also permitted.

#### 2.3.9 Restricted reachability of services

#### Requirement:

Securina Networks

The SEPP shall restrict the reachability of services such that they can be reached only on interfaces meant for the purpose. On interfaces where services are active, the reachability should be limited to legitimate communication peers.

Administrative services (e.g., SSH, HTTPS, RDP) shall be restricted to interfaces in the management plane for separation of management traffic from user traffic.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.3.2.2]

#### 2.3.10 Self Testing

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 19 of 56

#### Requirement:

The SEPP's cryptographic module shall perform power-up self-tests and conditional self- tests to ensure that the module is functioning properly. Power-up self-tests shall be performed when the cryptographic module is powered up. Conditional self-tests shall be performed when an applicable security function or operation is invoked (i.e., security functions for which self-tests are required). If a cryptographic module fails a self-test, the module shall enter an error state and output an error indicator via the status output interface. The cryptographic module shall not perform any cryptographic operations while in an error state.

### **Section 4: System Secure Execution Environment**

#### 2.4.1 No unused functions

#### Requirement:

Unused functions i.e., the software and hardware functions which are not needed for operation or functionality of the SEPP shall be deactivated in the SEPP's software and/or hardware. The list of hardware and software functions installed in the system shall match with the ones that have been mentioned and deemed necessary for the operation of the SEPP.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.3.2.4]

Note: The reference to hardware may not be applicable here for GVNP Models of Type 1 & 2..

#### 2.4.2 No unsupported components

#### Requirement:

OEM to ensure that the SEPP shall not contain software and hardware components that are no longer supported by them or their 3rd Parties including the opensource communities, such as components that have reached end-of-life or end-of-support. An undertaking in this regard shall be given by OEM.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.3.2.5]

Note: The reference to hardware may not be applicable here for GVNP Models of Type 1 & 2.

#### 2.4.3 Avoidance of Unspecified mode of Access

#### Requirement:

SEPP shall not contain any wireless access mechanism which is unspecified or not declared. An undertaking shall be given by the OEM as follows:

"The SEPP does not contain any wireless, optical, magnetic or any other component that may

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 20 of 56

be used as a covert channel."

#### **Section 5: User Audit**

#### 2.5.1 Audit trail storage and protection

#### Requirement:

The security event log shall be accessing controlled (file access rights) so only privileged users have access to the log files.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.3.6.3]

#### 2.5.2 Audit Event Generation

#### Requirement:

The SEPP shall log all important Security events with unique System Reference details as given in the Table below.

SEPP shall record within each audit record at least information pertaining to date and time of the event, type of event, subject identity, and the outcome (success or failure) of the event.

Additional audit record information, depending on the audit event, shall also be provided as given in the Table below:

Event Types (Mandatory or optional)	Description	Event data to be logged	
		Username	
		Source (IP address) if	
Incorrect login attempts	Records any user incorrect login	remote access	
(Mandatory)	attempts to the SEPP.	Outcome of event (Success or failure)	
	Securing Networks	Timestamp	
		Username	
		Timestamp	
Administrator access	Records any access attempts to	Length of session	
(Mandatory)	accounts that have system privileges.	Outcome of event (Success or failure)	
		Source (IP address) if	
		remote access	
	Records all account	Administrator username	
Account administration	administration activity, i.e.,	Administered account	
(Mandatory)	configure, delete, copy, enable,	Activity performed	
	and disable.	(configure, delete, enable	

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 21 of 56

		and disable)	
		Outcome of event (Success or failure) Timestamp	
		Value exceeded	
	Records events that have been	Value reached	
Resource Usage (Mandatory)	triggered when system parameter values such as disk space, CPU load over a longer period have exceeded their defined	(Here suitable threshold values shall be defined depending on the individual system.)  Outcome of event	
	thresholds.	(Threshold Exceeded)	
		Timestamp	
	400	Change made	
Configuration change	Changes to configuration of the	Timestamp	
(Mandatory)	network device	Outcome of event (Success or failure)	
		Username	
<u> </u>	This event records any action on the network device/SEPP that forces a reboot or shutdown OR	Action performed (boot, reboot, shutdown, etc.)	
Reboot / shutdown /		Username (for intentional actions)	
crash (Mandatory)	where the network device/SEPP has crashed.	Outcome of event (Success or failure)	
	MNOOSZ	Timestamp	
		Interface name and type	
Interface status change	Change to the status of interfaces on the network	Status (shutdown, down missing link, etc.)	
(Mandatory)	device/SEPP (e.g. shutdown)	Outcome of event (Success or failure)	
	Securing Networks	Timestamp	
		Administrator username	
		Administered account	
Change of group membership or accounts	Any change of group membership for accounts	Activity performed (group added or removed)	
(Optional)	membership for accounts	Outcome of event (Success or failure)	
		Timestamp	
		Administrator username	
Resetting Passwords	Resetting of user account	Administered account	
(Optional)	passwords by the Administrator	Activity performed	

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401

	T	/C
		(configure, delete, enable and disable)
		Outcome of event (Success
		or failure)
		Timestamp
		Service identity
		Activity performed (start,
Sorvices (Ontional)	Starting and Stopping of Services	stop, etc.)
Services (Optional)	(if applicable)	Timestamp
		Outcome of event (Success
		or failure)
		Timestamp
X.509 Certificate	Unsuccessful attempt to validate	Reason for failure
Validation (Optional)	a certificate	Subject identity
		Type of event
		User identity
Secure Update	Attempt to initiate manual	Timestamp
(Optional)	update, initiation of update,	Outcome of event (Success
(Optional)	completion of update	or failure)
		Activity performed
1		Old value of time
//		New value of time
\\		Timestamp
Time change		origin of attempt to change
(Mandatory)	Change in time settings	time (e.g., IP address)
(		Subject identity
		Outcome of event (Success
		or failure)
		User identity
		User identity (wherever
	Any attempts at unlocking of an	applicable)
_	interactive session, termination	Timestamp
Session unlocking/	of a remote session by the	Outcome of event (Success
termination (Optional)	session locking mechanism,	or failure)
	termination of an interactive	Subject identity
	session	Activity performed
		Type of event
Trusted Communication	Initiation Township Conservation	Timestamp
paths with IT entities	Initiation, Termination and Failure of trusted	Initiator identity (as
such as Authentication	Communication paths	applicable)
Server, Audit Server, NTP	Communication patris	Target identity (as applicable)
		applicable)

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 23 of 56

Γ	1	T
Server, etc. and for		User identity (in case of
authorized remote		Remote administrator
administrators (Optional)		access)
		Type of event
		Outcome of event (Success
		or failure, as applicable)
		Timestamp
		Type of event (audit data
		deletion, audit data
		modification)
		Outcome of event (Success
Audit data changes	Changes to audit data including	or failure)
(Optional)	deletion of audit data	Subject identity
		User identity
	and the same of th	origin of attempt to change
		time (e.g., IP address)
1 1	5 - A N 100	Details of data deleted or
		modified
		User identity
		Origin of attempt (IP
Hear Login (Mandatory)	All use of Identification and	address)
User Login (Mandatory)	authentication mechanisms.	Outcome of event (Success
1/1		or failure)
		Timestamp

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.3.6.1]

#### 2.5.3 Secure Log Export

#### Requirement:

- a) The SEPP shall support forwarding of security event logging data to an external system available in redundant configuration by push or pull mechanism through diverse links.
- b) Log functions should support secure uploading of log files to a central location or to a system external for the SEPP.
- c) SEPP shall be able to store the generated audit data locally. The memory for this purpose shall be dimensioned to cater for the continuous storage of two days of audit data. OEM shall submit justification document for sufficiency of local storage requirement.
- d) Secure Log export shall comply the secure cryptographic controls prescribed in Table 1 of the latest document "Cryptographic Controls for Indian Telecom Security Assurance Requirements (ITSAR)" only.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.3.6.2]

#### 2.5.4 Logging access to personal data

#### Requirement:

In some cases, access to personal data in a clear text might be required. If such access is required, access to this data shall be logged, and the log shall contain who accessed what data without revealing personal data in clear text. When for practical purposes, such logging is not available, a coarser grain logging is allowed. In some cases, the personal data stored in the log files may allow the direct identification of a subscriber. In such cases, the revealed personal information may not expose the subscriber to any kind of privacy violation.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.3.2.5]

#### **Section 6: Data Protection**

#### 2.6.1 Cryptographic Based Secure Communication

#### Requirement:

SEPP shall Communicate with the connected entities strictly using the secure cryptographic controls prescribed in Table 1 of the latest document "Cryptographic Controls for Indian Telecom Security Assurance Requirements (ITSAR)" only.

OEM shall submit to TSTL, the list of the connected entities with SEPP and the method of secure communication.

#### 2.6.2 Cryptographic Module Security Assurance

#### Requirement:

Cryptographic module embedded inside the SEPP (in the form of hardware, software or firmware) that provides all the necessary security services such as authentication, integrity and confidentiality is designed and implemented in compliance with FIPS 140-2 or later as prescribed by NIST standards.

Till further instructions, this clause will be considered 'complied' by submission of an undertaking by the OEM in specified format.

An undertaking is to be submitted by the OEM mentioning that "Cryptographic module embedded inside the SEPP (in the form of hardware, software or firmware) that provides all the necessary security services such as authentication, integrity and confidentiality is designed and implemented in compliance with FIPS 140-2 or later as prescribed by NIST standards."

#### 2.6.3 Cryptographic Algorithms implementation Security Assurance

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 25 of 56

#### Requirement:

Cryptographic algorithm implemented inside the Crypto module of SEPP shall be in compliance with the respective FIPS standards (for the specific crypto algorithm).

Till further instructions, this clause will be considered 'complied' by submission of an undertaking by the OEM in specified format.

An undertaking is to be submitted by the OEM mentioning that "Cryptographic algorithms implemented inside the Crypto module of SEPP is in compliance with the respective FIPS standards (for the specific crypto algorithm embedded inside the SEPP)."

### 2.6.4 Protecting data and information – Confidential System Internal Data

#### Requirement:

- a) When SEPP is in normal operational mode (i.e., not in maintenance mode) there shall be no system function that reveals confidential system internal data in the clear text to users and administrators.
- b) Access to maintenance mode shall be restricted only to authorized privileged user.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.3.2.2.]

#### 2.6.5 Protecting data and information in storage

#### Requirement:

- a) For sensitive data (persistent or temporary) in storage, read access rights shall be restricted. Sensitive files of SEPP system that are needed for the functionality shall be protected against manipulation strictly using the Secure cryptographic controls prescribed in Table 1 of the latest document "Cryptographic Controls for Indian Telecom Security Assurance Requirements (ITSAR)" with appropriate non-repudiation controls.
- b) In addition, the following rules apply for:
  - i) Systems that need access to identification and authentication data in the clear/readable form e.g., in order to perform an authentication. Such systems shall not store this data in the clear/readable form, but scramble or encrypt it by implementation-specific means.
  - ii) Systems that do not need access to sensitive data in the clear. Such systems shall hash this sensitive data strictly using the cryptographic controls prescribed in Table 1 of the latest document "Cryptographic Controls for Indian Telecom Security Assurance Requirements (ITSAR)" only.
  - iii) <u>Stored files in the SEPP</u>: Shall be protected against manipulation strictly using the NCCS approved Secure cryptographic controls prescribed in Table 1 of the latest document

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 26 of 56

"Cryptographic Controls for Indian Telecom Security Assurance Requirements (ITSAR)" only.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.3.2.3]

#### 2.6.6 Protection against Copy of Data

#### Requirement:

- a) Without authentication & authorization and except for specified purposes, SEPP shall not support copying of control plane and user plane data.
- b) Protective measures should exist against use of available system functions / software residing in SEPP to create copy of control plane and user plane data for illegal transmission.

#### 2.6.7 Protection against Data Exfiltration - Overt Channel

#### Requirement:

- a) SEPP shall have mechanisms to prevent data exfiltration attacks for theft of control plane and user plane data in use and data in transit.
- b) Establishment of outbound overt channels such as, HTTPS, IM, P2P, Email etc. are to be forbidden if they are auto-initiated by / auto-originated from the SEPP.
- c) Session logs shall be generated for establishment of any session initiated by either user or SEPP.

#### 2.6.8 Protection against Data Exfiltration - Covert Channel

#### Requirement:

- a) SEPP shall have mechanisms to prevent data exfiltration attacks for theft of control plane and user plane data in use and data in transit.
- b) Establishment of outbound covert channels and tunnels such as DNS Tunnel, HTTPS Tunnel, ICMP Tunnel, TLS, SSL, SSH, IPSEC VPN, RTP Encapsulation etc. are to be forbidden if they are auto-initiated by / auto-originated from the SEPP.
- c) Session logs shall be generated for establishment of any session initiated by either user or SEPP system.

#### Section 7: Network Services

#### 2.7.1 Traffic Filtering – Network Level Requirement

#### Requirement:

SEPP shall provide a mechanism to filter incoming IP packets on any IP interface. In particular

ITSAR Number: **ITSAR111192401** Page **27** of **56** 

the SEPP shall provide a mechanism:

- a) To filter incoming IP packets on any IP interface at Network Layer and Transport Layer of the stack ISO/OSI.
- b) To allow specified actions to be taken when a filter rule matches. In particular at least the following actions should be supported:
  - Discard/Drop: the matching message is discarded; no subsequent rules are applied and no answer is sent back.
  - Accept: the matching message is accepted.
  - Account: the matching message is accounted for i.e., a counter for the rule is incremented. This action can be combined with the previous ones. This feature is useful to monitor traffic before its blocking.
- c) To enable/disable for each rule the logging for Dropped packets, i.e., details on messages matching the rule for troubleshooting.
- d) To filter on the basis of the value(s) of source IP, destination IP and port addresses of protocol header.
- e) To reset the accounting.
- f) The SEPP shall provide a mechanism to disable/enable each defined rule.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.6.2.1]

#### 2.7.2 Traffic Separation

#### Requirement:

The SEPP shall support the physical or logical separation of traffic belonging to different network domains. For example, O&M traffic and control plane traffic belong to different network domains. See RFC 3871 for further information.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.3.5.1].

#### 2.7.3 Traffic Protection – Anti-Spoofing

#### Requirement:

SEPP shall not process IP Packets if their source address is not reachable via the incoming interface. Implementation example: Use of "Reverse Path Filter" (RPF) provides this function.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.3.3.1.1]

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 28 of 56

#### 2.7.4 GTP-C Filtering (when 5GC is interworking with EPC)

#### Requirement:

The following capability is conditionally required:

- For each message of a GTP-C-based protocol, it shall be possible to check whether the sender of this message is authorized to send a message pertaining to this protocol.
- At least the following actions should be supported when the check is satisfied:
  - Discard: the matching message is discarded.
  - Accept: the matching message is accepted.
  - Account: the matching message is accounted for, i.e., a counter for the rule is incremented. This action can be combined with the previous ones. This feature is useful to monitor traffic before its blocking.

This requirement is conditional in the following sense: It is required that at least one of the following two statements holds:

- SEPP supports the capability described above, and this is stated in the product documentation.
- The SEPP's documentation states that the capability is not supported and that the SEPP needs to be deployed together with a separate entity that provides the capability described above.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.6.2.3]

Note: This clause is applicable for SEPP.

#### 2.7.5 GTP-U Filtering

#### Requirement:

The following capability is conditionally required:

- For each message of a GTP-U-based protocol, it shall be possible to check whether the sender of this message is authorized to send a message pertaining to this protocol.
- At least the following actions should be supported when the check is satisfied:
  - Discard: the matching message is discarded.
  - Accept: the matching message is accepted.
  - Account: the matching message is accounted for, i.e., a counter for the rule is incremented. This action can be combined with the previous ones. This feature is useful to monitor traffic before its blocking.

This requirement is conditional in the following sense: It is required that at least one of the following two statements holds:

- SEPP supports the capability described above, and this is stated in the product documentation.
- The SEPP's product documentation states that the capability is not supported and that the

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 29 of 56

SEPP needs to be deployed together with a separate entity which provides the capability described above.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.6.2.4]

Note: This clause is applicable for UPF.

#### **Section 8: Attack Prevention Mechanisms**

#### 2.8.1 Network Level and application-level DDoS

#### Requirement:

SEPP shall have protection mechanism against Network level and Application-level DDoS attacks.

SEPP shall provide security measures to deal with overload situations which may occur as a result of a denial-of-service attack or during periods of increased traffic. In particular, partial or complete impairment of system availability shall be avoided.

For example, potential protective measures may include:

- Restricting of available RAM per application
- Restricting of maximum sessions for a Web application
- Defining the maximum size of a dataset
- Restricting CPU resources per process
- Prioritizing processes
- Limiting of amount or size of transactions of an user or from an IP address in a specific time range
- Limiting of amount or size of transactions to an IP address/Port Address in a specific time range

Securing Networks

[Reference: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.3.3.1]

#### 2.8.2 Excessive Overload Protection

#### Requirement:

SEPP shall act in a predictable way if an overload situation cannot be prevented. SEPP shall be built in this way that it can react on an overload situation in a controlled way.

However, it is possible that a situation happens where the security measures are no longer sufficient. In such case it shall be ensured that SEPP cannot reach an undefined and thus potentially insecure, state.

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 30 of 56

OEM shall provide a technical description of the SEPP's Overload Control mechanisms. (especially whether these mechanisms rely on cooperation of other network elements e.g., RAN)

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.3.3.3]

# 2.8.3 Manipulated packets that are sent to an address of the network device shall not lead to an impairment of availability.

#### Requirement:

SEPP shall not be affected in its availability or robustness by incoming packets from other network elements that are manipulated or differing the norm. This means that appropriate packets shall be detected as invalid and be discarded. The process shall not be affecting the performance of the SEPP. This robustness shall be just as effective for a great mass of invalid packets as for individual or a small number of packets.

Examples of such packets are:

- Mass-produced TCP packets with a set SYN flag to produce half-open TCP connections (SYN flooding attack).
- Packets with the same IP sender address and IP recipient address (Land attack).
- Mass-produced ICMP packets with the broadcast address of a network as target address (Smurf attack).
- Fragmented IP packets with overlapping offset fields (Teardrop attack).
- ICMP packets that are larger than the maximum permitted size (65,535 Bytes) of IPv4 packets (Ping-of-death attack).
- Uncorrelated reply packets (i.e. packets which cannot be correlated to any request).

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.2.6.2.2]

Note: This clause may not be applicable for GVNP Type 1.

### Section 9: Vulnerability Testing Requirements

#### 2.9.1 Fuzzing – Network and Application Level

#### Requirement:

It shall be ensured that externally reachable services of SEPP are reasonably robust when receiving unexpected input.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.4.4]

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 31 of 56

#### 2.9.2 Port Scanning

#### Requirement:

It shall be ensured that on all network interfaces of SEPP, only documented ports on the transport layer respond to requests from outside the system.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.4.2]

#### 2.9.3 Vulnerability Scanning

#### Requirement:

The vulnerabilities found during the Vulnerability Scanning/Assessment process shall be remediated as below. For other than critical vulnerabilities, OEM shall provide remediation plan.

SI No	CVSS Score	Severity	Remediation
1	9.0-10.0	Critical	To be patched immediately
2	7.0-8.9	High	To be patched within a month
3	4.0-6.9	Medium	To be patched within three months
4	0.1-3.9	Low	To be patched within a year

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.4.3]

#### **Section 10: Operating System**

#### 2.10.1 Growing Content Handling

#### Requirement:

- a) Growing or dynamic content shall not influence system functions.
- b) A file system that reaches its maximum capacity shall lead to an event getting logged with appropriate message parameters and shall not stop SEPP from operating properly. Therefore, countermeasures shall be taken to ensure that this scenario is avoided.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.4.1.1.1]

#### 2.10.2 Handling of ICMP

#### Requirement:

Processing of ICMPv4 and ICMPv6 packets which are not required for operation shall be disabled on the SEPP.

SEPP shall not send certain ICMP types by default but it may support the option to enable

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 32 of 56

utilization of these types which are marked as "Optional" in below table:

Type (IPv4)	Type (IPv6)	Description	Send	Respond to
0	automatic r			N/A
3	1	Destination Unreachable	Permitted	N/A
8	129	Echo Request	Permitted	Optional
11	3	Time Exceeded	Optional	N/A
12	4	Parameter Problem	Permitted	N/A
N/A	2	Packet too Big	Permitted	N/A
N/A	135	Neighbor Solicitation	Permitted	Permitted
ΙΝ/Δ Ι 136 Ι		Neighbor Advertisement	Permitted	N/A

SEPP shall not respond to, or process (i.e., do changes to configuration) under any circumstances certain ICMP message types as marked in the below table.

Type (IPv4)	Type (IPv6)	Description	Send	Respond to	Process (i.e., do changes to configuration)
5	137	Redirect	N/A	N/A	Not Permitted
13	N/A	Timestamp	N/A	Not Permitted	N/A
14	N/A	Timestamp Reply	Not Permitted (i.e., as automatic reply to "Timestamp")	S N/A	N/A
N/A	133	Router Solicitation	N/A	Not Permitted	Not Permitted
N/A	134	Router Advertis ement	N/A	N/A	Not Permitted

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.4.1.1.2.]

#### 2.10.3 Authenticated Privilege Escalation only

#### Requirement:

SEPP shall not support a privilege escalation method in interactive sessions (both CLI and GUI) which allows a user to gain administrator/root privileges from another user account without reauthentication.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.4.1.2.1]

#### 2.10.4 System account identification

#### Requirement:

Each system account in SEPP shall have a unique identification.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.4.2.2]

#### 2.10.5 OS Hardening - Minimized kernel network functions

#### Requirement:

Kernel-based network functions not needed for the operation of the network element shall be deactivated. In particular, the following ones shall be disabled by default:

- 1. IP Packet Forwarding between different interfaces of the network product.
- 2. Proxy ARP
- 3. Directed broadcast
- 4. IPv4 Multicast handling
- 5. Gratuitous ARP messages

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section - 4.3.3.1.2]

Note: This clause may not be applicable for GVNP Type 1.

#### 2.10.6 No automatic launch of removable media

#### Requirement:

SEPP shall not automatically launch any application when a removable media device is connected.

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 34 of 56

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section - 4.3.3.1.3]

Note: This clause may not be applicable for GVNP Type 1 and 2.

#### 2.10.7 Protection from buffer overflows

#### Requirement:

SEPP shall support mechanisms for buffer overflow protection. Documentation which describes these buffer overflow mechanisms and also how to check that they have been enabled and/or implemented shall be provided by OEM.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section - 4.3.3.1.5]

#### 2.10.8 External file system mount restrictions

#### Requirement:

If normal users are allowed to mount external file systems (attached locally or via the network), OS-level restrictions shall be set properly in SEPP in order to prevent privilege escalation or extended access permissions due to the contents of the mounted file systems. OS-level restrictions shall apply to normal users against mount / use of removable media devices (e.g. USB drive, CD ROM etc.) for data transfer.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section - 4.3.3.1.6]

Note: This clause may not be applicable for GVNP Type 1 and 2.

#### 2.10.9 File-system Authorization privileges

#### Requirement:

SEPP shall be designed to ensure that only users that are authorized to modify files, data, directories or file systems have the necessary privileges to do so.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section - 4.3.2.7]

#### 2.10.10 SYN Flood Prevention

#### Requirement:

SEPP shall support a mechanism to prevent Syn Flood attacks. This feature shall be enabled by default.

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 35 of 56

#### 2.10.11 Handling of IP options and extensions

#### Requirement:

IP packets with unnecessary options or extension headers shall not be processed. IP options and extension headers (e.g., source routing) are only required in exceptional cases. So, all packets with enabled IP options or extension headers shall be filtered.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section - 4.2.4.1.1.3]

## 2.10.12 Restrictions on running Scripts / Batch-processes

#### Requirement:

Scheduled tasks for carrying out the activities such as taking the backups, monitoring disk space and system maintenance activities shall be executed by the privileged user such as administrator only. Similarly, SEPP shall have feature to restrict Scripts / Batch-processes / Macros usage among various users. It shall be possible to administratively configure scheduled tasks usage i.e., Cron-Job usage (permit / deny) among various users like Normal users, privileged users.

#### 2.10.13 Restrictions on Soft-Restart

#### Requirement:

SEPP shall restrict software-based system restart options usage among various users. The software reset / restart either through command or use of key-combinations like CTRL+ALT+DEL is not available to normal users for prevention of unintended / malicious trigger of system reset / restart.

Note: Hardware based restart may not be applicable for GVNP Type 1 and 2.

## **Section 11: Web Servers**

This entire section of the security requirements is applicable if the SEPP supports web management interface.

#### 2.11.1 HTTPS

#### Requirement:

The communication between Web client and Web server shall be protected strictly using the Secure cryptographic controls prescribed in Table 1 of the latest document "Cryptographic

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 36 of 56

Controls For Indian Telecom Security Assurance Requirements (ITSAR)" only.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.2.5.1]

#### 2.11.2 Webserver logging

Requirement:

Access to the SEPP webserver (for both successful as well as failed attempts) shall be logged by SEPP

The web server log shall contain the following information:

- Access timestamp
- Source (IP address)
- Account (if known)
- Attempted login name (if the associated account does not exist)
- Relevant fields in http request. The URL should be included whenever possible.
- Status code of web server response

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.2.5.2]

# 2.11.3 HTTPS input validation

Requirement:

The SEPP shall have a mechanism in place to ensure that web application inputs are not vulnerable to command injection or cross-site scripting attacks.

SEPP shall validate, filter, escape, and encode user-controllable input before it is placed in output that is used as a web page that is served to other users.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.2.5.4]

#### 2.11.4 No system privileges

Securing Networks

Requirement:

No SEPP web server processes shall run with system privileges.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.3.4.2]

#### 2.11.5 No unused HTTPS methods

Requirement:

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 37 of 56

HTTPS methods that are not required for SEPP operation shall be deactivated.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.3.4.3]

#### 2.11.6 No unused add-ons

#### Requirement:

All optional add-ons and components of the web server shall be deactivated if they are not required for SEPP operation.

In particular, CGI or other scripting components, Server Side Includes (SSI), and WebDAV shall be deactivated if they are not required.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.3.4.4]

#### 2.11.7 No compiler, interpreter, or shell via CGI or other server-side scripting

## Requirement:

If CGI (Common Gateway Interface) or other scripting technology is used, the CGI directory or other corresponding scripting directory shall not include compilers or interpreters.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.3.4.5]

#### 2.11.8 No CGI or other scripting for uploads

## Requirement:

If CGI or other scripting technology is used, the associated CGI/script directory shall not be used for uploads.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.3.4.6]

#### 2.11.9 No execution of system commands with SSI

#### Requirement:

If Server Side Includes (SSI) is active, the execution of system commands shall be deactivated.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.3.4.7]

#### 2.11.10 Access rights for web server configuration

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 38 of 56

#### Requirement:

Access rights for SEPP web server configuration files shall only be granted to the owner of the web server process or to a user with system privileges.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.3.4.8]

#### 2.11.11 No default content

#### Requirement:

Default content that is provided with the standard installation of the SEPP web server shall be removed.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.3.4.9]

#### 2.11.12 No directory listings

#### Requirement:

Directory listings (indexing) / "Directory browsing" shall be deactivated.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.3.4.10]

#### 2.11.13 Web server information in HTTPS headers

#### Requirement:

The HTTPS header shall not include information on the version of the SEPP web server and the modules/add-ons used.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.3.4.11]

#### 2.11.14 Web server information in error pages

## Requirement:

User-defined error pages and Error messages shall not include version information and other internal information about the SEPP web server and the modules/add-ons used.

Default error pages of the SEPP web server shall be replaced by error pages defined by the OEM.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.3.4.12]

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 39 of 56

#### 2.11.15 Minimized file type mappings

#### Requirement:

File type or script-mappings that are not required for SEPP operation shall be deleted.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.3.

#### 2.11.16 Restricted file access

### Requirement:

Restrictive access rights shall be assigned to all files which are directly or indirectly reside in the SEPP web server's document directory.

In particular, the SEPP web server shall not be able to access files which are not meant to be delivered.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.3.4.14]

### 2.11.17 Execute rights exclusive for CGI/Scripting directory

#### Requirement:

If CGI or other scripting technology is used, only the CGI/Scripting directory is configured with execute rights. Other directories used or meant for web content do not have execute rights.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.3.4.15]

#### 2.11.18 HTTP User session

#### Requirement:

Securing Networks

To protect user sessions, SEPP shall support the following session ID and session cookie requirements:

- 1. The session ID shall uniquely identify the user and distinguish the session from all other active sessions.
- 2. The session ID shall be unpredictable.
- 3. The session ID shall not contain sensitive information in clear text (e.g., account number, social security, etc.).
- 4. In addition to the Session Idle Timeout, SEPP shall automatically terminate sessions after a configurable maximum lifetime. This maximum lifetime defines the maximum session span. When the maximum lifetime expires, the session shall be closed, the session ID shall be deleted and the user shall be forced to (re)authenticate in the web application and to

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 40 of 56

- establish a new session. The default value for this maximum lifetime shall be set to 8 hours.
- 5. Session IDs shall be regenerated for each new session (e.g., each time a user logs in).
- 6. The session ID shall not be reused or renewed in subsequent sessions.
- 7. The SEPP shall not use persistent cookies to manage sessions but only session cookies. This means that neither the "expire" nor the "max-age" attribute shall be set in the cookies
- 8. Where session cookies are used the attribute 'Http Only' shall be set to true.
- 9. Where session cookies are used the 'domain' attribute shall be set to ensure that the cookie can only be sent to the specified domain.
- 10. Where session cookies are used the 'path' attribute shall be set to ensure that the cookie can only be sent to the specified directory or sub-directory.
- 11. The SEPP shall not accept session identifiers from GET/POST variables.
- 12. The SEPP shall be configured to only accept server generated session ID.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.2.5.3]

# Section 12: General SBA/SBI Aspects

This general baseline requirements are applicable to all Network Function (NF) within the 5G Core (5GC) utilizing Service-Based Interfaces (SBI), independent of a specific network product class.

#### 2.12.1 No code execution or inclusion of external resources by JSON parsers

#### Requirement:

Parsers used by Network Functions (NF) shall not execute JavaScript or any other code contained in JSON objects received on Service Based Interfaces (SBI). Further, these parsers shall not include any resources external to the received JSON object itself, such as files from the NF's filesystem or other resources loaded externally.

ecuring Networks

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section - 4.3.6.2]

## 2.12.2 Validation of the unique key values in IEs

## Requirement:

For data structures where values are accessible using names (sometimes referred to as keys), e.g., a JSON object, the name shall be unique. The occurrence of the same name (or key) twice within such a structure shall be an error and the message shall be rejected.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section - 4.3.6.3]

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 41 of 56

#### 2.12.3 Validation of the IEs limits

## Requirement:

The valid format and range of values for each IE, when applicable, shall be defined unambiguously:

- For each message the number of leaf IEs shall not exceed 16000.
- The maximum size of the JSON body of any HTTP request shall not exceed 16 million bytes.
- The maximum nesting depth of leaves shall not exceed 32.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section - 4.3.6.4]

### 2.12.4 Protection at the transport layer

#### Requirement:

NF Service Request and Response procedure shall support mutual authentication between NF consumer and NF producer.

All network functions shall support TLS. Network functions shall support both server-side and client-side certificates.

Authentication between network functions within one PLMN can use the following method:

- If the PLMN uses protection at the transport layer, authentication provided by the transport layer protection solution shall be used for authentication between NFs.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.2.2.2]

Note: This may not be applicable for UPF and N3IWF.

## 2.12.5 Authorization token verification failure handling within one PLMN

#### Requirement:

The NF Service producer shall verify the access token as follows:

- The NF Service producer ensures the integrity of the access token by verifying the signature using NRF's public key or checking the MAC value using the shared secret. If integrity check is successful, the NF Service producer shall verify the claims in the access token as follows:
  - It checks that the audience claim in the access token matches its own identity or the type of NF service producer. If a list of NSSAIs or list of NSI IDs is present, the NF service producer shall check that it serves the corresponding slice(s).
  - If an NF Set ID is present, the NF Service Producer shall check the NF Set ID in the claim matches its own NF Set ID.
  - If the access token contains "additional scope" information (i.e., allowed resources and allowed actions (service operations) on the resources), it checks that the additional scope matches the requested service operation.
  - If scope is present, it checks that the scope matches the requested service operation.

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 42 of 56

- It checks that the access token has not expired by verifying the expiration time in the access token against the current data/time.
- If the verification is successful, the NF Service producer shall execute the requested service and respond back to the NF Service consumer. Otherwise, it shall reply based on the Oauth 2.0 error response defined in RFC 6749. The NF service consumer may store the received token(s). Stored tokens may be re-used for accessing service(s) from producer NF type listed in claims (scope, audience) during their validity time.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.2.2.3.1]

Note: This may not be applicable for UPF and SEPP.

#### 2.12.6 Authorization token verification failure handling in different PLMNs

#### Requirement:

The NF service producer shall check that the home PLMN ID of the audience claimed in the access token matches its own PLMN identity.

[Ref: TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. Section 4.2.2.2.3.2]

Note: This may be applicable for SEPP.

# **Section 13: Other Security requirements**

#### 2.13.1 Remote Diagnostic Procedure – Verification

#### Requirement:

If the SEPP is providing Remote access for troubleshooting purposes/alarm maintenance then it shall be allowed only for authorized users, other than the root user.

All activities performed by the remote user are to be logged with the following parameters:

- 1. User id
- 2. Time stamp
- 3. Interface type
- 4. Event level (e.g. CRITICAL, MAJOR, MINOR)
- 5. Command/activity performed
- 6. Result type (e.g. SUCCESS, FAILURE).
- 7. IP Address of remote machine

#### 2.13.2 No System Password Recovery

#### Requirement:

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 43 of 56

No provision shall exist for SEPP System / Root password recovery.

#### 2.13.3 Secure System Software Revocation

#### Requirement:

Once the SEPP software image is legally updated/upgraded with New Software Image, it shall normally not be possible to roll back to a previous software image. In case roll back is essential, it shall be done by the administrator with appropriate non-repudiation controls.

SEPP shall support a well-established control mechanism for rolling back to previous software image.

### 2.13.4 Software Integrity Check –Installation

#### Requirement:

SEPP shall validate the software package integrity before the installation stage strictly using the Secure cryptographic controls prescribed in Table 1 of the latest document "Cryptographic Controls for Indian Telecom Security Assurance Requirements (ITSAR)" only.

Tampered software shall not be executed or installed if integrity check fails.

#### 2.13.5 Software Integrity Check – Boot

#### Requirement:

The SEPP shall verify the integrity of a software component by comparing the result of a measurement of the component, typically a standard cryptographic hash generated strictly using the Secure cryptographic controls prescribed in Table 1 of the latest document "Cryptographic Controls for Indian Telecom Security Assurance Requirements (ITSAR)" to the expected reference value.

Note: This may not be applicable for GVNP Type 1 and Type 2.

# 2.13.6 Unused Physical and Logical Interfaces Disabling

# Requirement:

SEPP shall support the mechanism to verify both the physical and logical interfaces exist in the product.

Physical and logical accessible interfaces (except console interface) which are not under use shall be disabled so that they remain inactive even in the event of reboot.

Note: This may not be applicable for GVNP Type 1 and Type 2.

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 44 of 56

# 2.13.7 No Default Profile

# Requirement:

Predefined or default user accounts (other than Admin/Root) in SEPP shall be deleted or disabled.



ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 45 of 56

# **Chapter 3 – Specific Security Requirements**

# Section: 1

# 3.1.1 Correct handling of cryptographic material of peer SEPPs and IPX providers

#### Requirement:

The SEPP shall be able to clearly differentiate between certificates used for authentication of peer SEPPs and certificates used for authentication of intermediates performing message modifications.

[Reference: TEC 25885:2022/TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.517-16.3.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.2.2.2]

## 3.1.2 Connection-specific scope of cryptographic material by IPX-providers

#### Requirement:

Cryptographic material from IPX providers, i.e., raw public keys or certificates, used to authenticate N32-f message modifications is only valid for the N32 connection it is exchanged in. The SEPP shall not accept N32-f message modifications signed by IPX- providers other than the ones whose cryptographic material has been exchanged as part of the IPX security information list via the related N32-c connection.

[Reference: TEC 25885:2022/TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.517-16.3.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.2.2.3]

#### 3.1.3 Correct handling of serving PLMN ID mismatch

#### Requirement:

The receiving SEPP shall verify that the PLMN-ID contained in the incoming N32-f message matches the PLMN-ID in the related N32-f context.

The SEPP shall check that the serving PLMN ID of subject claim in the access token matches the remote PLMN ID corresponding to the N32-f context Id in the N32 message.

[Reference: TEC 25885:2022/TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.517-16.3.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.2.2.4]

## 3.1.4 Confidential IEs replacement handling in original N32-f message

#### Requirement:

Based on the protection policy exchanged between the SEPPs, the sending SEPP prepares an input for the JWE ciphering and integrity protection as an array of free form JSON objects in the "DataToIntegrityProtectAndCipher" block with each entry containing either a HTTP header

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 46 of 56

value or the value of a JSON payload IE of the API message being reformatted. The index value "encBlockIdx" in the payload part of DataToIntegrityProtectBlock shall point to the index of a header value or IE value in this input array.

[Reference: TEC 25885:2022/TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.517-16.3.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.2.2.5]

# 3.1.5 Correct handling of protection policy mismatch

#### Requirement:

When a SEPP receives a data-type encryption or modification policy on N32-c, it shall compare it to the one that has been manually configured for this specific roaming partner and IPX provider. If a mismatch occurs for one of the two policies, the SEPP shall perform one of the following actions, according to operator policy:

- Send the error message to the peer SEPP
- Create a local warning

[Reference: TEC 25885:2022/TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.517-16.3.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.2.2.6]

## 3.1.6 JWS profile restriction

#### Requirement:

SEPPs and IPXs shall follow the JWS profile as defined in TS 33.210 with the restriction that they shall only use ES256 algorithm.

[Reference: TEC 25885:2022/TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.517-16.3.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.2.2.7]

## 3.1.7 No misplacement of encrypted IEs in JSON object by IPX

#### Requirement:

The following basic validation rules shall always be applied irrespective of the policy exchanged between two roaming partners:

- IEs requiring encryption shall not be inserted at a different location in the JSON object as specified in TS 33.501, clause 13.2.3.4.

"A SEPP shall verify that an intermediate IPX has not moved or copied an encrypted IE to a location that would be reflected from the producer NF in an IE without encryption" as specified in TS 33.501, clause 13.2.4.1.

[Reference: TEC 25885:2022/TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.517-16.3.0 V.1.0.0. section 4.2.2.8]

ITSAR Number: **ITSAR111192401** Page **47** of **56** 

#### **Definitions**

- 1. AUSF: AUSF is a network function with which SEAF and UDM interact during the authentication of UE.
- 2. DDOS: DDoS is a distributed denial-of-service attack that renders the victim un- usable by the external environment.
- 3. GUTI: The purpose of the GUTI is to provide an unambiguous identification of the UE that does not reveal the UE or the user's permanent identity.
- 4. Generic Network Product: Generic Network Product (GNP) model as defined in Section 4.1 and 4.3 of TSDSI RPT T1.3GPP 33.926-16.4.0 V1.0.0
- 5. Generic virtualized network product model (GVNP) Type 1: GVNP Model as defined in Section 5.2.3 of TSDSI RPT T1.3GPP 33.818-17.1.0 V1.0.0
- 6. Generic virtualized network product model (GVNP)Type 2: GVNP Model as defined in Section 5.2.3 of TSDSI RPT T1.3GPP 33.818-17.1.0 V1.0.0
- 7. Generic virtualized network product model (GVNP)Type 3: GVNP Model as defined in Section 5.2.3 of TSDSI RPT T1.3GPP 33.818-17.1.0 V1.0.0
- 8. Downlink: Unidirectional radio link for the transmission of signals from a RAN access point to a UE. Also, in general the direction from Network to UE.
- 9. Identifiable person: one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identification number, name or to one or more factors specific to his physical, physiological, mental, economic, cultural or social identity. NOTE: personal data can be gathered from user data and traffic data.
- 10. Local access: The access from Console interface, from local Console network, from LMT (Local Maintenance Terminal interface) or from GNP'/NE's local hardware interface.
- 11. Local logical interface: It is an interface that can be used only via physical connection to the GNP. That is, the connection requires physical access to the GNP. The entire protocol stack is considered to be part of the local logical interface. The entire protocol stack and the physical parts of the interface can be used by local connections.
  Local Logical Interfaces also include the local hardware interfaces and the Local Maintenance Terminal interface (LMT) of the GNP used for its maintenance through a console. i.e., Local logical interface includes OAM local console, LMT (Local Maintenance Terminal) interface and GNP local hardware interfaces. Attaching to a local interface may cause execution of complex internal procedures in the GNP like loading USB device drivers, enumeration of attached devices, mounting file systems etc.
- 12. Machine Accounts: These will be used for authentication and authorization from system to system or between applications on a system and cannot be assigned to a single person or a group of persons.
- 13. Medium Access Control: A sub-layer of radio interface layer 2 providing unacknowledged data transfer service on logical channels and access to transport channels.
- 14. Mobility: The ability for the user to communicate whilst moving independent of location.
- 15. Network Element: A discrete telecommunications entity which can be managed over a specific interface e.g. the RNC.
- 16. NG-RAN: It is the radio access network introduced for accessing 5G.

- 17. Node B: A logical node responsible for radio transmission / reception in one or more cells to/from the User Equipment. Terminates the lub interface towards the RNC.
- 18. Non-Access Stratum: Protocols between UE and the core network that are not terminated in the RAN.
- 19. Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM): manufacturer of communication and its related products under whose brand, the products are sold or proposed to be sold to operators in the country.
- 20. Packet: An information unit identified by a label at layer 3 of the OSI reference model. A network protocol data unit (NPDU).
- 21. Personal data: any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person ('data subject'). NOTE: personal data can be gathered from user data and traffic data.
- 22. PLMN Area: The PLMN area is the geographical area in which a PLMN provides communication services according to the specifications to mobile users. In the PLMN area, the mobile user can set up calls to a user of a terminating network. The terminating network may be a fixed network, the same PLMN, another PLMN or other types of PLMN. Terminating network users can also set up calls to the PLMN. The PLMN area is allocated to a PLMN. It is determined by the service and network provider in accordance with any provisions laid down under national law. In general, the PLMN area is restricted to one country. It can also be determined differently, depending on the different telecommunication services, or type of MS. If there are several PLMNs in one country, their PLMN areas may overlap. In border areas, the PLMN areas of different countries may overlap. Administrations will have to take precautions to ensure that cross border coverage is minimized in adjacent countries unless otherwise agreed.
- 23. PLMN Operator: Public Land Mobile Network operator. The entity which offers telecommunications services over an air interface.
- 24. Protocol data unit: In the reference model for OSI, a unit of data specified in an (N)-protocol layer and consisting of (N)-protocol control information and possibly (N)- user data.
- 25. Protocol: A formal set of procedures that are adopted to ensure communication between two or more functions within the same layer of a hierarchy of functions.
- 26. QoS profile: a QoS profile comprises a number of QoS parameters. A QoS profile is associated with each QoS session. The QoS profile defines the performance expectations placed on the bearer network.
- 27. QoS session: Lifetime of PDP context. The period between the opening and closing of a network connection whose characteristics are defined by a QoS profile. Multiple QoS sessions may exist, each with a different QoS profile.
- 28. Quality of Service: The collective effect of service performances which determine the degree of satisfaction of a user of a service. It is characterized by the combined aspects of performance factors applicable to all services, such as
  - service operability performance;
  - service accessibility performance;
  - service retainability performance;
  - service integrity performance; and
  - other factors specific to each service.

ITSAR Number: **ITSAR111192401** Page **49** of **56** 

- 29. Radio link: A "radio link" is a logical association between single User Equipment and a single RAN access point. Its physical realization comprises one or more radio bearer transmissions.
- 30. Radio Resource Control: A sublayer of radio interface Layer 3 existing in the control plane only which provides information transfer service to the non-access stratum. RRC is responsible for controlling the configuration of radio interface Layers 1 and 2.
- 31. Registered PLMN (RPLMN): This is the PLMN on which the UE has performed a location registration successfully.
- 32. Registration Area: A (NAS) registration area is an area in which the UE may roam without a need to perform location registration, which is a NAS procedure.
- 33. Remote Access: The access which is not Local access. This includes access from the EMS (Element Management System) network, and access that originates or passes through the internet.
- 34. RRC Connection: A point-to-point bi-directional connection between RRC peer entities on the UE and the UTRAN sides, respectively. A UE has either zero or one RRC connection.
- 35. SEAF is an entity which is subsumed by AMF which communicates with UE and AUSF during device authentication.
- 36. Security: The ability to prevent fraud as well as the protection of information availability, integrity, and confidentiality.
- 37. Sensitive data: data that may be used for authentication or may help to identify the user, such as usernames, passwords, PINs, cryptographic keys, IMSIs, IMEIs, MSISDNs, or IP addresses of the UE, as well as files of a system that are needed for the functionality such as firmware images, patches, drivers or kernel modules.
- 38. Serving Network: The serving network provides the user with access to the services of the home environment.
- 39. Software refers to the programs and data components which are usually stored on erasable media (e.g., disk), that can be dynamically written and modified during execution. Two general categories of software are system software and application software.
- 40. Subscriber: The responsibility for payment of charges incurred by one or more users may be undertaken by another entity designated as a subscriber. This division between use of and payment for services has no impact on standardization.
- 41. Transmission or Transport is the transfer of information from one entity (transmitter) to another (receiver) via a communication path.
- 42. Universal Subscriber Identity Module (USIM): An application residing on the UICC used for accessing services provided by mobile networks, which the application is able to register on with the appropriate security.
- 43. Uplink: An "uplink" is a unidirectional radio link for the transmission of signals from a UE to a base station.
- 44. User Equipment: A device allowing a user access to network services. The interface between the UE and the network is the radio interface. A User Equipment can be subdivided into a number of domains, the domains being separated by reference points.

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 50 of 56

### **Annexure-II**

# Acronyms

5GC \_ 5G Core Network

5GMM - 5GS Mobility Management

5GS \_ 5G System

5GSM - 5G Session Management

AF \_ Application Function

AKA \_ Authentication and Key Agreement

AKA' \_ AKA Prime

AKMA - Authentication and key management for applications

ARP \_ Address Resolution Protocol/Allocation and Retention Priority

ARPF \_ Authentication Credential Repository and Processing Function

AS \_ Access Stratum

ATSSS \_ Access Traffic Steering, Switching, Splitting

AUSF \_ Authentication Server Function

AUTS \_ Authentication failure message with synchronization failure

BSF \_ Binding Support Function

CHF \_ Charging Function

CloT \_ Cellular Internet of things

CLI \_ Command Line Interface

CM \_ Connection Management

CP \_ Control Plane

CVE \_ Common Vulnerabilities and Exposures

CWE \_ Common Weakness Enumeration

CVSS \_ Common Vulnerability Scoring System

DCCF Data Collection Coordination Function

DDoS \_ Distributed Denial of Service

DL \_ Downlink

DN \_ Data Network

DNN \_ Data Network Name

DS-TT \_ Device Side TSN Translator

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 51 of 56

DTLS \_ Datagram Transport Layer Security

EAP \_ Extensible Authentication Protocol

EASDF - Edge Application Server Discovery Function

ECS \_ EDNS Client Subnet

EDNS - Extension Mechanism for DNS

EMM \_ EPS Mobility Management

EPC \_ Evolved Packet Core

EPS \_ Evolved Packet System

F-TEID \_ Fully Qualified Tunnel Endpoint Identifier

FQDN - Fully Qualified Domain Name

gNB \_ 5G Next Generation base station

GNP \_ Generalized Network Product

GTP-C - GPRS Tunnelling Protocol Control Plane

GTP-U \_ GPRS Tunnelling Protocol User Plane

GUI \_ Graphical User Interface

GUTI \_ Globally Unique Temporary Identifier

GVNP - Generalized Virtual Network Product

HTTP \_ Hypertext Transfer Protocol

HTTPS - Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure

ICMP \_ Internet Control Message Protocol

IE \_ Information Element

IMS \_ IP Multimedia Subsystem

IMPI \_ IMS Private Identity

IMPU - IMS Public Identity Securing Networks

IP \_ Internet Protocol

IPUPS \_ Inter-PLMN User Plane Security

IPX \_ IP exchange

ISO-OSI International organization of Standardization – Open System Interconnection

JSON \_ JavaScript Object Notation

JWS \_ JSON Web Signature

JWT \_ JSON Web Token

LBO Local Breakout

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 52 of 56

LMF Location Management Function MA

PDU \_ Multiple Access PDU

MFAF \_ Messaging Framework Adaptor Function

ML \_ Machine Learning

N3IWF \_ Non-3GPP Interworking Function

NAS \_ Non-Access Stratum

NEF \_ Network Exposure Function

NF \_ Network Function
NG \_ Next Generation

ng-eNB \_ Next Generation e-NodeB

NG-RAN - Next Generation Radio Access Network

NRF \_ Network Repository Function

NSAC - Network Slice Admission Control

NVD National Vulnerability Database

NVD \_ National Vulnerability Database

NWDAF - Network Data Analytics Function

NW-TT \_ Network -side TSN Translator

O&M - Operations and Maintenance

OAM - Operations Administration Maintenance

OS \_ Operating System

PCF \_ Policy Control Function

PDR \_ Packet Detection Rule

PDU \_ Protocol Data Unit

PFCP - Packet Forwarding Control Protocol

PFD \_ Packet Flow Descriptor

PLMN - Public Land Mobile Network

PRINS \_ Protocol for N32 Interconnect Security

PSA \_ PDU Session Anchor

QoS \_ Quality of Service

RAM \_ Random Access Memory

RAN \_ Radio Access Network

RAT \_ Radio Access Technology

RES \_ Response

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 53 of 56

REST \_ Representational State Transfer

RFC \_ Request For Comments

RM - Registration Management

RRC \_ Radio Resource Control

S-NSSAI Single - Network Slice Selection Assistance Information

SBI \_ Service Based Interfaces

SCP \_ Service Communication Proxy

SDF \_ Service Data Flow

SEAF \_ Security Anchor Function

SEPP \_ Security Edge Protection Proxy

SIDF \_ Subscription Identifier De-concealing Function

SMF \_ Session Management Function

SNPN - Stand Alone Non-Public Network

SSC \_ Session and Service Continuity

SUCI \_ Subscription Concealed Identifier

SUPI \_ Subscription Permanent Identifier

TA \_ Tracking Area

TNGF \_ Trusted Non-3GPP Gateway Function

TSC \_ Time Sensitive Communication

TSN \_ Time Sensitive Networking

TSTL - Telecom Security Testing Laboratory

TT Function \_ TSN Translator Function

UDM \_ Unified Data Management

UDR \_ Unified Data Repository Networks

UE \_ User Equipment

UL \_ Uplink

UPF \_ User Plane Function

URI \_ Uniform Resource Identifier

URL \_ Uniform Resource Locator

URLLC \_ Ultra Reliable Low Latency Communication

VN \_ Virtual Network

WLAN Wireless Local Area Network

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 54 of 56

# **Annexure-III**

#### **List of Submissions**

List of Undertakings to be furnished by the OEM for SEPP security testing:

- 1. Source Code Security Assurance (against test case 2.3.3)
- 2. Known Malware and backdoor Check (against test case 2.3.4)
- 3. No unused Software (against test case 2.3.5)
- 4. Communication matrix (against test case 2.3.6)
- 5. No Unused Functions (against test case 2.4.1)
- 6. Avoidance of Unspecified Wireless Access (against test case 2.4.3)
- 7. Cryptographic Based Secure Communication (against test case 2.6.1)
- 8. Cryptographic Module Security Assurance (against test case 2.6.2)
- 9. Cryptographic Algorithms implementation Security Assurance (against test case 2.6.3)
- 10. Vulnerability Scanning-Remediation Plan (against test case 2.9.3)



ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 55 of 56

### **Annexure-IV**

## References

- 1. TEC 25848:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.117-16.7.0 V.1.0.0. "Catalogue of General
- 2. Security Assurance Requirements".
- 3. TEC 25885:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.517 -16.6.0 V.1.0.0 5G Security Assurance Specification (SCAS), Security Edge Protection Proxy (SEPP).
- 4. TEC 25878:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33.501-16.9.0 V.1.0.0 Security architecture and procedures for 5G System.
- 5. TEC 25860:2022 / TSDSI STD T1.3GPP 33210-16.4.0 V.1.0.0 Network Domain
- 6. Security (NDS); IP network layer security
- 7. RFC 7540 Hypertext Transfer Protocol Version 2 (HTTP/2)
- 8. RFC 7515 JSON Web Signature (JWS)
- 9. RFC 7519 JSON Web Token (JWT)
- 10. RFC 6749 The OAuth 2.0 Authorization Framework



Securing Networks

ITSAR Number: ITSAR111192401 Page 56 of 56