

Agile Specification development Operator Interest Process guidelines

Operator Interest Group Definition

A group of operators, vendors and relevant stakeholders, convened by a Lead operator, working together in a transparent way to

- focus on a single IP Communications enabler- or feature-area,
- define a proposed solution description and specification
- develop a technical solution and implement as a proof of concept or commercially available service
- disband once the plan goals have been achieved

subject to defined processes, Working Group liaison procedure, intellectual property guidelines and anti-trust guidelines established by GSMA, and supported by GSMA project managers and Infocentre.

Majority voting is used for decision making if consensus is not evident (one MNO - one vote)
Only operators which have participated and made contributions have a vote within the OIG

General Rules - Participation

- All feature development needs to be fully transparent to all from point of inception i.e. must declare each initiative that is intended to enter the specification (recommended from anti-trust perspective)
- A minimum of two Operators (i.e. Full members of GSM Association) can form an Operator Interest Group (OIG).
- Associate members of GSM Association may join an OIG. Indeed, such vendor participation is encouraged.
- Participants must be active i.e. preparation of contributions, development of prototypes, test clients and environments, interconnects etc.
- MNOs and vendors who do not participate may still follow the OIG on Infocentre, as key documents will be available openly there.
- Decision-making is by consensus between active, participating companies. In exceptional circumstances where voting is required to make decisions, active operators shall vote, one-company, one-vote.

RCI Matrix

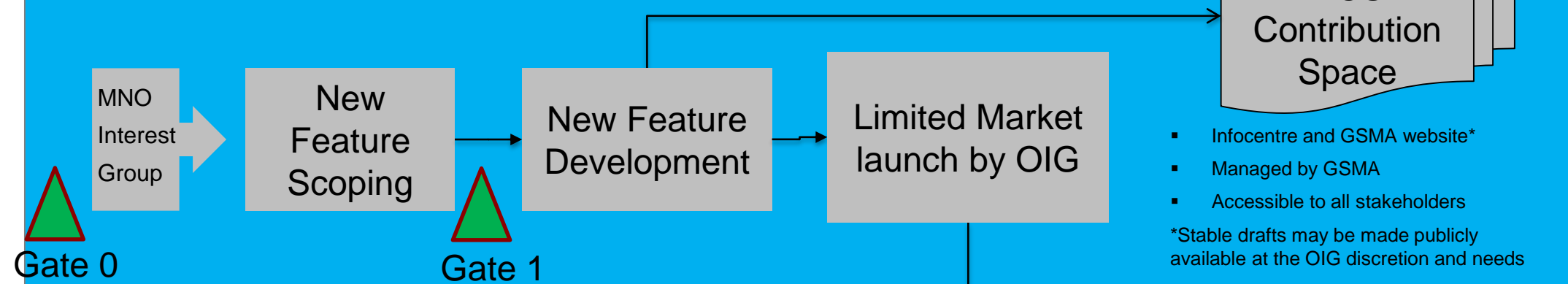
	Leadership Team	GSG	GFRG	IoT	Operator Interest Groups	Vendors
Selection of areas to work on	I	I	I	I	R	C
Development of new feature descriptions	I	I	C	I	R	C
Development of technical solutions	I	C	I	I	R	C
Launch of new features	I	I	I	I	R	C
Test of new features	I	I	I	C	R	C
Development of modifications to existing services	I	I	C	I	R	C
Development of technical solutions for modifications	I	C	I	I	R	C
Launch of modifications to existing services	I	I	I	I	R	C
Incorporation of changes into baseline RCS specification	C	R	R	I	C	I
Modification of baseline test cases	I	C	C	R	C	I

R= Responsible
C= Consulted
I= Informed

High Level Process

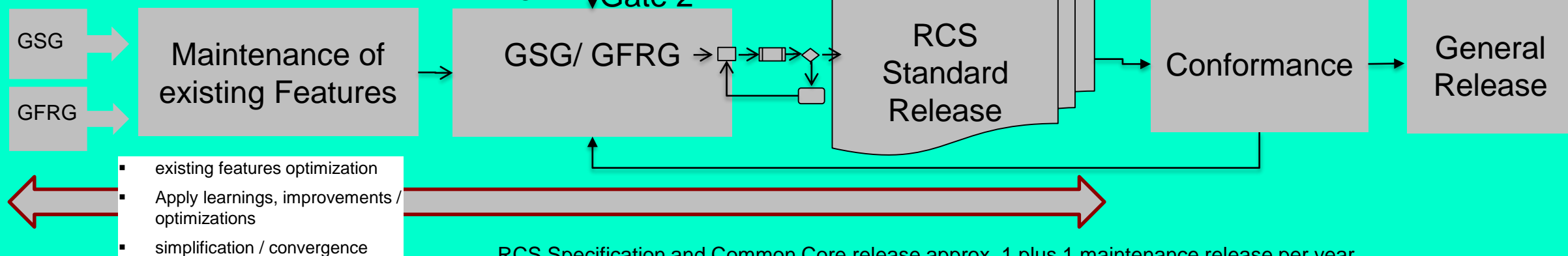
Innovation: Operator Interest Group-managed

Duration varies from project to project, no set timelines



- CR to Specification
- Service Description Doc (mandatory for GCC, recommended for RCS spec)
- Test cases and conformance criteria
- Additional data to aid GSG/GFRG prioritisation and assessment

Business-as-usual: IP Comms LT-managed

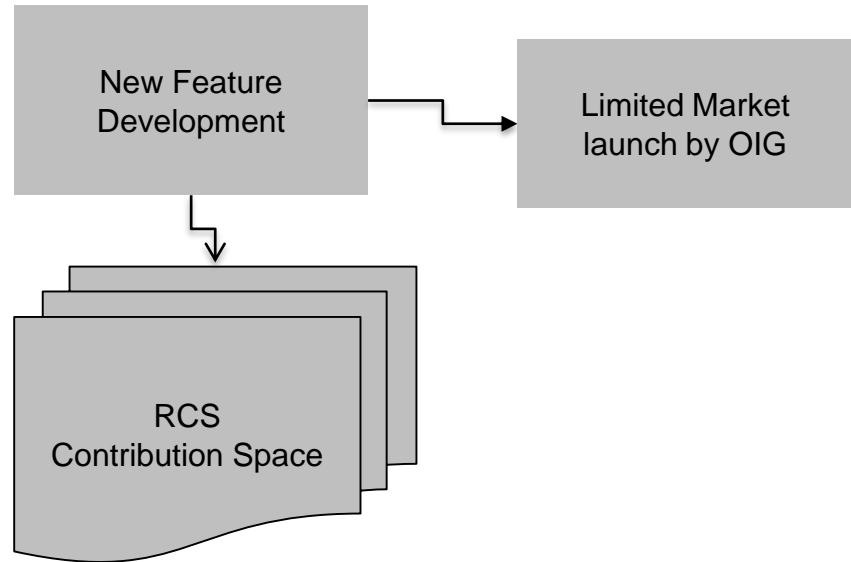


RCS Specification and Common Core release approx. 1 plus 1 maintenance release per year

Overall gating process

Process stage	Description	Input / Status	Review	Positive Outcome
GATE 0: Inception	Minimum of two operators declare intent to create a new feature and requesting to GSMA/LT to form a new Operator Interest Group (OIG) Formation of OIG to be placed on InfoCentre: One or more MNO(s) assigned as leader of OIG	Initiation Form/ Mandatory	Not a 'gate', no review of process, just registration of intent via a form May include period of time for expressions of interest in joining from others	OIG formed, announced to stakeholders, Infocentre page allocated, PM assigned
GATE 1: Scoping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - OIG provide detail of the scope of their project - Operator and associate member participation confirmed - Participation of at least one vendor (devices or clients) strongly recommended 	Scope statement and plan / Mandatory	- GFRG, GSG confirm scope does not conflict with other OIG, cannot be delivered under existing specification	GSMA/LT approve/request more info/decline/propose folding into another proposed or active OIG
GATE 2: Incorporation into Standard	<p>With sufficient notice to allow enough time for review, the contribution goes to GFRG / GSG for review as a candidate for the specification</p> <p>Strength of contribution denotes priority when GSG is processing candidates, propose a guillotine approach where best chance of inclusion lies in providing the most supporting data</p>	Service Description Document (if also Common Core candidate) , Conformance test case, CR on RCS spec / Mandatory	LT, GFRG and GSG assess <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Customer feedback - Support – apps may be co-developed - Transparency -Contribution depth – experience reference, client/server code copyright , essential IPR 	OIG development is incorporated into the next annual release of the standard baseline

RCS Candidate Contribution



The RCS Candidate Contribution status is an interim stage between Gate 1 review and Gate 2 approval into the standards.

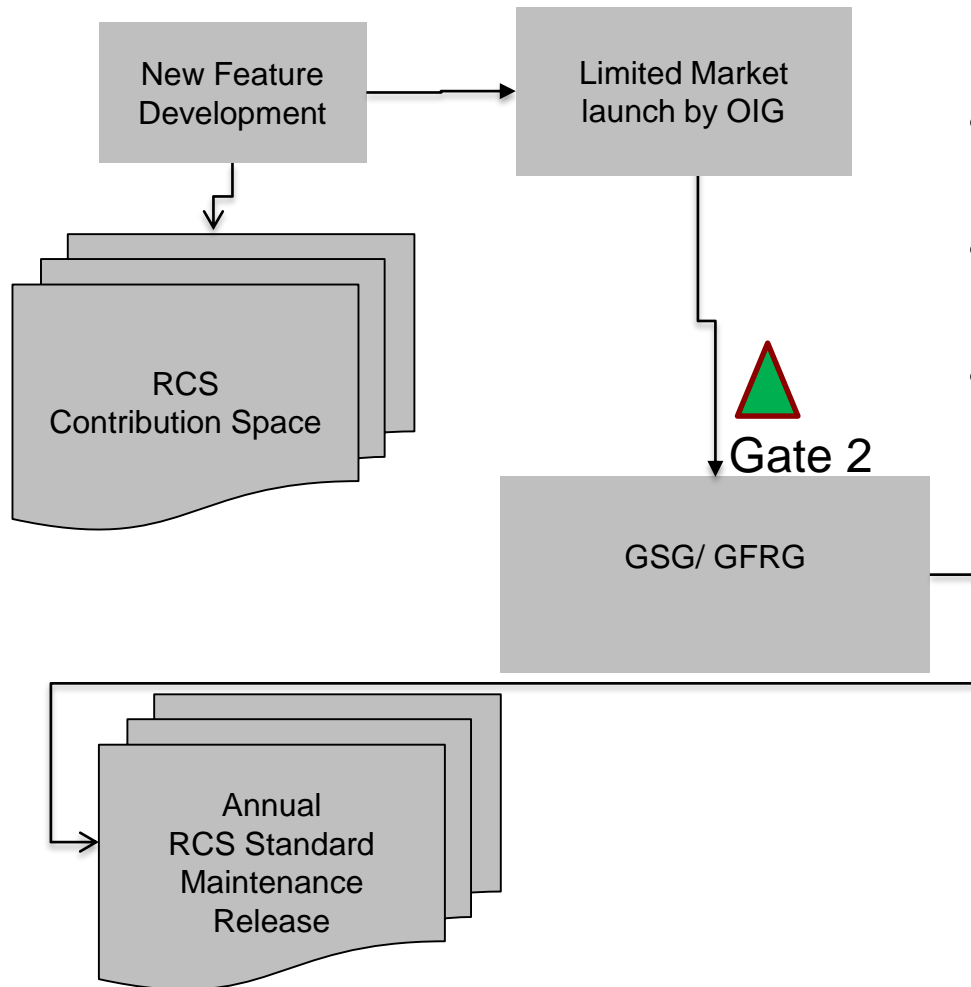
To be considered as a Candidate Contribution the following criteria should be met:

- Passed OIG Gate 1 review
- Baseline product requirements ready for validation
- Baseline proposed technical solution ready for validation
- Baseline documentation published on RCS Contribution space (Infocentre and GSMA website)

Once this status has been reached, features can be tested and implemented as part of a trial or proof of concept activity.

OIGs are encouraged to capture the learnings from testing and trials in the final OIG contributions which are submitted to the standard.

Contributing to Standard



How to incorporate into standard?

- An OIG's proven contributions should be submitted in line with the RCS release cycle along with supporting collateral
- Submissions should include RCS spec CRs and draft SDDs – “all the work should be done” by OIG
- GSG and GFRG review the submission for incorporation into the next release (deadlines TBD)
- Contribution is measured on
 - Customer feedback
 - Support – apps may be co-developed
 - Transparency
 - Contribution depth, may include
 - ☐ experience reference
 - ☐ client/server code copyright
 - ☐ essential IPR
 - ☐ Depth and breadth of support in ecosystem

Generic Rules – Release Schedules

- All OIGs shall ensure their contribution is based on the current baseline of the standard i.e. As the standard changes, contributions must take changes into consideration
- Contributions are made to the underlying RCS specification. The GFRG may separately decide to adopt the contribution into the Common Core.
- GSMA will release a new version of the RCS standard and Common Core every Feb at MWC (plus possibly 1 interim maintenance release).
- OIGs are encouraged to deliver a working prototype which is launched by at least one operator when contributing to the standard

How will conflicts / overlaps be identified?

- Initiation document contains details of the area the new feature will address
- Detailed Scope Statement and plan will explore more technical details and further focus on feature area
- Both documents, at Gates 1 and 2 respectively, will be shared with
 - GFRG: Responsible for ensuring >1 OIG does not address the same feature space
 - GSG: Responsible for ensuring >1 OIG does not plan to adopt or implement a technology that could conflict with the existing specifications, live implementations or the plans of other live OIGs
 - LT: Responsible for detecting potential longer-term conflicts and overall 'safety net'
- Where a conflict is detected
 - The initiating OIG operator(s) and OEM(s) are invited to a GSMA call where the issue is explained
 - The initiating OIG has the option of
 - ☐ (a) modifying their proposal (quick fix/ compromise) to negate the conflict
 - ☐ (b) addressing the conflict area as part of a new OIG
 - ☐ (c) Ending their initiative

Relationship between Candidate Contributions and Commercial profiles

- In general, a new feature should only be included in a profile release if it has successfully passed Gate 2 and has been incorporated into the standard.
- However a 'Candidate Contribution' can be included in a profile release provided the following conditions are met:
 - The OIG feature requirements can be achieved without any modification to the existing technical specification release
 - There is no impact on the NNI and no change required to NNI testing.

The GSG will be responsible for validating an OIGs assessment.

The IP Communications LT and other key stakeholders should be informed of the results.

- Infocentre will provide
 - Single view of all OIGs currently active
 - Contact details for all participants and the GSMA project manager
 - Ability to drill down to read the initiation statement and working documents of each OIG
 - On-line form for OIG Initiation
 - Project Management section where the voting rules guidelines are recorded
- GSMA website will provide
 - An open contribution space for OIGs which includes baseline documentation
 - Link to the operator interest group IC2 page
 - Wiki to show how the process works (if required) or RSS feeds as a future improvement