**STI-GA Policy #2:** **Terminating TN Validation**

*The terminating service provider (TSP) shall not perform a validation that the telephone number (TN) in the Caller ID field matches the holder of the SPC token.*

Explanation: Terminating End TN Holder Validation

At a recent IP-NNI meeting it was indicated that some providers planned to do a validation to determine if the TN in the Caller ID field was a native TN of the service provider (SP) that signed the call, the SPC token holder. Based on the results of the validation, they would choose to accept or reject the STIR/SHAKEN level of attestation (A-Full; B-Partial; C-Gateway).

There are two problems with a terminating service provider (TSP) taking this kind of action. First, the Originating Service Provider (OSP) can validate its customer’s right to use a particular telephone number (TN) in the Caller ID field and sign the call with the appropriate level of attestation. The OSP may validate the TNs usage based on: 1) having assigned the TN to the customer itself; or 2) through its knowledge of the customer’s right to use the TN even if the OSP itself did not assign the TN directly to the customer, is not the TN holder. In this latter case, the OCN of the service provider that assigned the number will not be the same as the OCN associated with the SPC token of the OSP that signed the call. Second, an SP may hold many OCNs. It is common for an SP to use a different OCN in each state in which it holds TNs. A validation to ensure the SPC token holder matches the TN holder would not work in most instances, because the SPC Token and TN, while held by the same SP are very likely to be associated with different OCNs. Because of this, the TSP doing the TN validation risks invalidating a perfectly legitimate STIR/SHAKEN Caller ID attestation.

For the above two reasons, the TC determined that STI-GA policy would denote that a TSP validation to determine if the TN in the Caller ID field was a native TN of the service provider (SP) that signed the call should not affect/invalidate an attestation level assigned by an OSP.[[1]](#footnote-1)

1. This may need to be revisited in the future should it be found providers are using the local policy exception to sign calls with inappropriate attestation levels. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)