



The independent software testing specialists

Welcome to IV&V Australia Testing Newsletter

This e-newsletter provides a practitioner's view of how to manage and perform SOFTWARE TESTING in today's world.

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Scope of Testing – Adding Method to the Madness

Whilst many organisations understand the importance of testing as 'something that needs to be done', it should always be viewed as an individual business process that requires management, resources and reviews similar to that of most other business areas. Having a truly defined scope of methodology for testing should be the first process area an organisation should establish to ensure testing is conducted and guided along a structured framework. This in turn will be the catalyst to ensuring high quality software and application releases with minimal defects or issues being encountered by clients and end users.

The scope of methodology should be documented and reviewed over time and adjusted to ensure that this test process area continues to advance in maturity. Over time this should reach a point where the Testing Methodology is understood not just by the Test Team, but by Development Teams, Project Managers, and other Project Stakeholders.

When assessing your own Scope of Methodology for Testing are you able to answer **yes** to each of the following questions?

- Does your organisation have a defined generic model for Testing?
- Has this generic model been documented and presented to all staff impacted by the test process?
- Do all of your Projects refer back to this documented process?
- Does your scope of methodology include information about Test cycles and management?
- Does your scope of methodology indicate what testing metrics should be collected?
- Does your scope of methodology outline how defects and issues will be managed during testing and how reporting of defects and issues will be conducted?

- Do you currently outline Test specification techniques and the best way to create test cases?
- Is the organisation conducting ongoing reviews of the Test Methodology to discuss where changes may be required to the documented approach to even further improve the level of testing?

If you answered **no** to any of the questions above, this could be having a negative impact on the quality of your application and software releases.

Establishing a well defined and broad-reaching test methodology will ensure greater confidence in application and software releases as a result of fewer defects and issues being migrated into production. This in turn will see a greater return on investment in the test process as less time, money and effort will be required on re-working code for the purpose of hot-fixes or patches after an application or software release. The ultimate objective of any test methodology is to establish a solid state of software and application quality which in turn will lead to improved brand loyalty from end users and clients.

Windows 7 – Are you ready?

With Windows 7 officially released on October 22nd, and receiving positive reviews across the industry, many organisations are considering switching to Windows 7 as the next enterprise Standard Operating Environment. As such, many organisations are wondering whether their applications will function correctly on Microsoft's new Operating System. IV&V Australia's test lab is now equipped with Windows 7 and can help ease any concerns you may have regarding your software or applications performance on this new Operating System. We are able to provide a range of testing options from a quick compatibility test to tailored regression tests. [Contact us](#) for further information on Windows 7 testing services.

Accredited Testing – What are the benefits?

IV&V Australia is a member of the National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA). NATA accredited software testing laboratories offer developers and users added assurance that their software has been tested by a competent laboratory, in accordance to the requester's specification and with the international standard for laboratory competence, ISO/IEC 17025.

This provides assurance to our clients that the test lab has met this key international standard. Accreditation means that risk is also reduced for software developers and end users of software that has been tested by our NATA-accredited lab.

The Key benefits of Independent Accredited Testing are:

- Gain confidence that your application has been systematically **tested by experienced testers**
- Be confident that the **test results are accurate**
- Gain an **objective view** of product quality
- **Reduce the risk** of major "show-stopper" problems in your released product
- **Understand** the state of your system prior to release

- Make an ***informed decision*** as to whether (and when) to ship the product
 - Provide ***accurate information*** to users about product features and functionality
 - Test the product against the full range of ***functional and system requirements***
 - Use testing experts to ***effectively and independently*** evaluate your product
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IV&V Australia launches new website

IV&V Australia has launched a brand new website. So swing by for all our latest testing news and information at www.ivvaust.com.au

tCHECK

In previous editions of our Newsletter, IV&V Australia introduced tCheck, our FREE quick test process assessment. tCheck is available on our web site, and we invite you to fill it in and email it to us. It is totally cost and obligation FREE, and your responses are confidential.

Click [here](#) to access tCheck.

FEEDBACK

Have you found this issue useful? We want to hear your comments and suggestions. Email us at info@ivvaust.com.au. For more information about IV&V Australia, visit our web site at <http://www.ivvaust.com.au>.

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