

Testing Automation - Myth Demystification & Right Approach to the Process



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An Introduction to Testing Automation

Testing automation is a boon in many ways. It assures better defect finding without the involvement of too much of strenuous efforts. However, it has to be noted that it cannot provide a complete substitution for human capacity required for designing and execution of the process, where a high level of mindfulness may be needed.



The Myths that Rule the Industry

Though it is true that a high demand for automation has become a norm for the industry, there are certain myths surrounding the fact. Many do feel that every new project has a requirement for it. Some even believe that with the increase in the usage of this new age testing methodology, there doesn't remain the need of writing the test cases or run any manual testing process at all or even undergo any kind of impact analyses of the process.

One needs to remember this methodology is to remove the defects and lessen the efforts and not to change the entire scenario of the process. The other related elements still remain important and they cannot be nullified.

Demystification of the Myth

Mechanized efforts will surely improve the quality of the activities involved in the process and ensure higher efficiency of the tests conducted. But this cannot in any case completely nullify the human capacity needed for well thought out planning, high quality designing, and reasonable execution of a process. In this paper, you'll learn vital aspects of testing mechanization and how it can be used in more effective manner.

To state it briefly and more precisely, any process should be automated in a gradual manner and that too after you've got hold of a proper repository for test case that includes all the assumptions made, clear-cut Quality Check and **Quality Assurance processes** along with a well-defined draft of testing objectives decided. Again proper estimation for the tasks and related objectives and vice-versa would be needed before you automate the process.

What's the Right Approach?

- ❖ **Undergo manual validation. Document the test cases that you've identified. Finally, automate.** For better User Interface functional testing, it is never a reliable method to mechanize the entire process at the very start. Again, if the feature hasn't been implemented at first and the **automated test** case for the User Interface is being written, modification may get complicated, and one can't imagine the process to work out without any need of modifications made to the test case. Even if it works out, developers would need a kind of rapid feedback so that they get to stay aware of the problems coming up and fix them up.

This is why; manual validation at the first step is advised. Once this step is done, one needs to identify the test cases and finally automate the test process.

- ❖ **Mechanization is no less than the actual development process.**
Thus, treat the automation just the way you treat the development phase. Make sure that you consider every single part of your configuration management exactly the way you handle the entire development phase of the project.
- ❖ **Make debugging handier by designing proper framework for the test automation.** The relevant your framework is, the more helpful it becomes in maintaining your code. Do not complicate. Keep the maintenance process easier and simpler. For easier debugging, you need to stay smart but make sure that you don't make the code look too smart to be handled!
- ❖ **Design a special solution that the developers can easily run and handle right on the local environments available to them.** This will prove most useful as developers will then be able to detect any bug or defect in the system before introducing any modification into the source code of the version repository.

- ❖ **Continuous testing should be brought into practice.** It is essential to be aware of the modifications made to the system in order to reduce the gap taking place between the time that the developers take in delivering a feature and the test results being sent back to them. Automatic execution of the test is needed in order to get the results faster and this gets done most efficiently when continuous testing is brought into practice.

- ❖ **Use a flexible solution.** Go for a solution that works on various different systems, browsers and interfaces and allows you to mix up various library, tools and frameworks within the process.

How Verifaya Proves Helpful in Better Test Automation

- ❖ **Continuous testing gets easier.** As you get shorter testing cycles with **Verifaya**, you get to support the development process continuously. Its analytics and reporting engine keeps sending regular reports that makes it clear why and when you need to test the software system. Also, with its special scheduling feature, you get to schedule the test execution, thus, there is no break in the continuous process.

- ❖ **You get a handier debugging procedure.** With its multi-layered reporting and analysis, it gets easier to locate the errors. You either get the reports emailed to you or have them saved up on to some local folder after every run and they are available in multiple file formats. With such quick and easy reporting and analysis process, getting hold of the bugs and undergoing debugging gets easier too.

Also, with centralized database, special accelerator, and built-in-framework reduces the maintenance efforts which in turn make the automation more effective and with easier maintenance, debugging and code improvement gets handier as well.

- ❖ **You get a flexible solution.** As Verifaya works with various different platforms and browsers, software testing gets maximum level of flexibility. This further proves helpful in faster turnaround and gives boost to the testing process.

- ❖ **Proper training services are offered.** Apart from available flexibility that provides the developers with a solution that can be run and handled on local environments available to them, Verifaya also offers special training services to the developers through its team of trainers and practitioners so that they can execute automated testing of various different projects with ease and better success. This training facility is available online as well as onsite depending on the needs of the developers and testers.

Conclusion

Automation certainly improves the quality of the process and activities involved in it which in turn improves the efficiency level of the testing. But this does not mean that automation has the capability to nullify the human capacity for well-thought-out planning, designing and execution. Thus, a manual validation is advised before undergoing complete **testing automation**. Also, right approach is a must for better results. Finally, it is vital to bring into use some really capable testing automation tool such as Verifaya.

About Verifaya

Our company was founded in 2005 and since our inception; we have delivered **automated software testing solutions** to companies of all sizes – from startups to Fortune 500 companies. Intel Capital invested with us in 2011 and in 2013 we launched **Verifaya Automation Platform – Verifaya Studio**, which allows customers to rapidly automate and run their automated test suites regularly, in a repeatable and economical way.

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