

Title

Keeping a clear vision in the cloud – optimising test case design techniques

Speaker(s)

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To whom is the presentation addressed?

Test managers, test automaters, test environment managers

Keywords

Testing, cloud

Abstract

Cloud computing refers to the on-demand provision of computational resources via a computer network (in particular over the Internet), rather than from a local computer. It fundamentally allows for a functional separation between the resources used and the user's computer. Consumers now routinely use data and compute intensive applications driven by cloud technology which were previously unavailable owing to cost and deployment complexity.

How does that change the approach to quality assurance? In particular, how does cloud computing change the discipline of software testing – what's different, what stays the same?

There has been much talk about cloud computing in the past few years. However, studying all the conference papers, articles, white-papers, books, blogs, and vendor recommendations can leave one with a fairly fuzzy picture of the cloud's impact on software testing. There seems to be little evidence of software testing best practices that are specific only to cloud systems, but there are some best practices that will help you to keep your eye on the ball – that provide you with a clear vision even within the cloud.

This workshop-style presentation will provide you with insight into new but proven approaches to functional test case design that will safeguard you through the development and deployment of local and cloud solutions. The presentation covers proven test case design methodologies that will significantly lower your workload while reducing risk and improving understanding of your true test coverage. See how organisations such as ALLIANZ have reduced their number of test cases from 12,000 to 3,500 while improving their risk coverage. We will discuss recent case studies across several industries - finance, insurance and energy - and show how they have achieved similar results.

Use the cloud, but keep your head above it.

Biography

Grant Borrie Managing Director, The Testing Consultancy.

Grant has been involved in software testing industry since 1994 working across Europe, Middle East, AsiaPac and New Zealand. At the software testing coal face, Grant has facilitated recent workshops on the application of improved test case design techniques and modelling. Using a case study from NZ's gas distribution industry, Grant will help illustrate how an enhanced test case design approach achieved benefits across testing and program delivery in general. The case study, based on a mature program, demonstrates how immediate customer benefits were realised in terms of

identifying new ambiguities in design & functional specifications, providing greater transparency and confidence across the project delivery space, and in significantly reducing test volumes whilst increasing product risk coverage – and all within the bounds of an existing and solid design, build, test, and implementation process.

Grant's testing career started in London's square mile and this grass roots experience since lead to test management and consultancy roles in banking, broadcasting, retail logistics, financial trading, telco, utilities, and government sector domains. Since his return to New Zealand in 2002, Grant has been focusing on delivering broad spectrum test process improvement and SMART testing strategies across the AsiaPac region. Targeting enterprise and project domains, Grant aids companies in the AsiaPac region to accelerate their maturity in test program delivery in line with the advancement of SMART testing solutions which include a shift away from predominantly manual test delivery towards technical enablers. His approach to testing is one of pragmatism in meeting client requirements, both in terms of their expectations from test deliverables and in final product. His key objective is to ensure that the client understands the capabilities and limitations of their software in the context of their business environment, and importantly how to realise true efficiencies in test program delivery thru application of maturity growth models and leading edge technical solutions.
