

Title

The Gaps in the Integration of Security Testing in Quality Frameworks

Speaker(s)

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To whom is the presentation addressed?

IT Managers, Software Quality Auditors, CIOs, Security Specialists, IT Architects

Keywords

ALM, Security, Testing, Auditing, Skills

Abstract

Despite encouraging signs that security testing is now part of the handover between development and operations, there remains serious concern that opportunities are being missed to tighten up the development process - and therefore overall development costs - with more comprehensive use of security testing. Security is not for example routinely included as part of the unit test library, or part of the check in/checkout process with the source code repository. The use of penetration testing before software is implemented is also not common practice. Overall, companies are more likely to work with a separate security testing process rather than embed it into established quality and testing programs, perpetuating the assessment that security programs represent cost rather than opportunity. These findings of a Market Review into The State of Secure Application Management, suggest organisations have yet to truly appreciate the value in assuring delivery of secure software.

The report analyses the results of an in-depth survey with members of the Information Security Professional Body, (ISC)² and the International Association of Software Architects, conducted by Creative Intellect Consulting to examine the challenges security presents to architects, developers and the wider application and delivery team. It reveals how security is being addressed across the application lifecycle, identifying the gaps and challenges that are currently preventing organisations from tackling software security successfully. Offering a specific focus on the audit and validation processes and security testing, this session looks at why current practice remains inadequate and how to motivate the move to a more effective treatment of security requirements. The emphasis will be on helping delegates see how to create value in a secure ALM, beyond the mere avoidance of vulnerabilities, with integrated security becoming a core element in the delivery of a more efficient process overall.

Biography

Bola Rotibi has 18 years of industry experience spanning engineering, software development and IT analysis. She is a high-profile and highly experienced analyst focused on software development technologies, processes and market trends. In 2008 and 2009 Bola Rotibi was voted one of the top three analysts covering the software development and delivery market and industry by the influential IIAR (Institute of Industry Analyst Relations) group. Prior to setting up Creative Intellect Consulting last year, Bola worked at MWD Advisors and analyst firm Ovum. She is a Chartered Engineer and has industry experience spanning the full software development lifecycle across a variety of industry sectors, encompassing network computing and application development. She has worked as a senior software developer for Reuters and a chemical and process control engineer for Air Products. In November 2010 she became an inaugural member of the internationally focussed (ISC)2 Application Security Advisory Board (ASAB), the international body of its kinds to address the issues of security awareness in the software community.
