

Title

## **SWIFT Testing – Shake the Tree!**

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### **Speaker(s)**

Alida Spies / Standard Bank and

Derrick Beling / SWIFTtesting.com

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### **To whom is the presentation addressed?**

Business Leaders, Project Managers, Testing professionals.

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### **Keywords**

SWIFT Testing, SWIFT Messages, Test Harness, SWIFT 2011 Upgrade, Message Testing, STEPS, Testing Tools

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### **Abstract**

SWIFT Operates a worldwide financial messaging network which exchanges messages between banks and other financial institutions. SWIFT introduces mandatory message and field changes annually, to support the financial industry requirements. SWIFT members (Banks etc.) must ensure that their business processes and systems are in line with the SWIFT standards upgrade by the due date dictated by SWIFT.

### **SWIFT Testing – Shaking the Tree**

The speakers want to share their “Shaking the tree” approach as we revisit the Standard Bank SWIFT 2010 Upgrade project.

Standard Bank required the ability to test SWIFT 2010 upgrade messages with the following key criteria – 1. Meet the timeline set by Swift, which was constrained by the dependency on applications interacting with Swift, as well as projects in flight during the upgrade period; 2. Reduced costs, time and effort for future SWIFT message upgrades i.e. 2011; 3. Ability to test middleware applications when they change without any reliance upon other applications for creation of messages; 4. Have a repeatable testing process that can be used for future upgrades, production changes and projects impacting on Swift and associated middleware applications

In order to meet the above-mentioned criteria, a whole new approach had to be designed, i.e. “Shaking the tree” and doing things differently was key to project success. The speakers discuss the “creation” of SWIFT test resources, defining SWIFT test strategy and SWIFT test case creation. These resources were used to execute functional, regression and exploratory testing across the entire range of required SWIFT message types, using test processes and techniques, as well as Message based testing tools.

They highlight the WOW moments of the Standard Bank SWIFT 2010 upgrade project as well as the obstacles that had to be overcome, in order to achieve the successful implementation of

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the project.

The SWIFTtesting initiative is aimed at interacting with other testing professionals working in SWIFT environments. They wish to connect with peers across the globe, irrespective of country or company, and to stimulate dialogue around common experiences in testing SWIFT.

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## Biography

Alida Spies: Programme Manager, Corporate and Investment Banking, Standard Bank.

Alida has fulfilled various roles in IT during her working career, covering analysis, programming, testing, project and programme management. She established a Centralised Test Center (CTC) for Corporate and Investment Banking about two years ago, and, with the help of preferred suppliers, introduced various automated testing processes within CIB.

Automated testing contributed greatly to the CTC objectives of reducing timelines to complete testing, reducing the number of test resources required and implementing software that works well. Alida has subsequently moved into a programme management role and enjoys being a client of testing instead of a supplier. In her free time, Alida is a musician and songwriter, and also enjoys photography, especially of wildlife.

Derrick Beling: Managing Director, Micro to Mainframe and founder of SWIFTtesting.com.

Derrick Hugo Beling matriculated in 1974 and afterwards completed a Bachelor of Commerce degree at the University of the Witwatersrand. His subsequent experience centres on the marketing and distribution of IT products in the South African market. This experience has been gained through the creation and management of companies that import and distribute PC related products introducing new technologies to the South African market.

In 1984 specifically he successfully introduced a product to connect PC's to IBM SNA (mainframe) networks. In 1987 he pursued a market that has now emerged as Enterprise Wide Development, involving the development of IBM mainframe (MVS) and Client-Server systems. In 1994 the company underwent a significant change from products to Testing Services.

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