



Overview

Business Challenge

Australian software testing specialists TestPro saw a need for a tool that would enable its clients to bring complex applications to market faster, and of greater quality than possible using traditional testing processes.

Solution

TestPro based its Automated Framework (TAF Pro), which enables non-technical users to test their own applications and can dramatically increase productivity, on IBM® Rational® Functional Tester.

TestPro takes to the cloud for faster application testing

Automatic software testing increases productivity by 50-90%

TestPro is an Australian specialist consultancy highly focussed on the software quality and testing field. Blending specialist expertise from other areas of the Software Development Lifecycle with a core testing capability, the TestPro team deliver a range of strategic and hands-on services and training to corporate and government enterprises as well as other software development companies and IT vendors.

Time is always of the essence

The testing of software products traditionally involves considerable resources completing manual activities. When this effort is limited – because of insufficient time, budget or impatience of business users to get a new application into production – it can create further complications and costs. Without thorough testing, users find more issues than expected. Resources are then needed to be focussed on resolving post-deployment issues, making them unavailable for new development projects and their testing.

This is compounded by the demand for applications which deliver new services to be brought to market fast. In today's interconnected world, applications are becoming more and more open to the public – which calls for tests that cover hundreds to thousands of scenarios in a short amount of time.



Business Benefits

- Reported productivity increases of 50-90%
 - Lower testing costs
 - Ability to run more tests in less time
 - Increased application quality – in a measurable case, 75% less product issues discovered after go-live
 - Faster application deployment and speed to market
 - Faster turnaround on critical patches, reducing risk
 - End users can take responsibility for testing their own applications
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Creating TestPro Automation Framework

TestPro saw a growing need in the market for automating the testing process. Less effort in testing would see it performed more quickly and thoroughly – which would, in turn, reduce the effort and time involved in reaching application stability in production.

TestPro's Managing Director, Scott Marchant, says that there is an ever-increasing need for accessible, easy-to-deploy testing which can be used by non-technical users. "Testing must take place faster than ever, especially when deploying web-based applications with large user populations. Our clients want to deploy new systems to their end-users and customers as quickly as possible to maintain or gain competitive advantage, and need the assurance they will perform to expectations."

An IBM Business Partner*, TestPro has long used IBM Rational products for its own development activities and recommended them when assisting clients in delivering enterprise application and integration projects. So, in developing the cloud-based TestPro Automation Framework (TAF Pro), the company based it on IBM Rational Functional Tester.



Built on a firm foundation – leveraging the cloud

Part of IBM Software's Rational range of software delivery tools and utilities, Rational Functional Tester provides testers with automated testing capabilities for functional testing.

By using Rational Functional Tester as a foundation for TAF Pro, TestPro was able to concentrate on developing a friendly user interface, making testing accessible to non-technical users. It was also able to enhance automation features and extend them across a wide range of potential scenarios. TAF also provides support for Agile development processes.

TAF Pro differs from other testing tools in the way that it creates a highly effective and productive environment for real-time collaboration between multiple developers, stakeholders and project managers.

TAF Pro, which is available as a cloud-based implementation, has proven its value over a number of projects representing a wide range of applications. One of these was an extensive online application which determines premiums for prospective insurance purchasers based on numerable variables. This required testing of over 3,000 different case scenarios to ensure accuracy which, using TAF, was accomplished overnight, instead of taking weeks.

Solutions Components

Software

- IBM Rational Functional Tester

IBM Business Partner

- TestPro
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TestPro's clients are experiencing a range of benefits.

- TestPro has reduced the resources it uses in testing, which speeds delivery and reduces costs.
- Clients themselves are achieving productivity savings of 50-90%.
- Greater numbers of tests can be conducted in a shorter period of time – enabling complex applications to be taken to market faster.
- Critical patches for applications are now able to be turned around rapidly, reducing risk.

Quality outcomes have greatly improved. In one example, a product tested using TAF Pro had 75% less issues after go-live, compared to a similar product which was manually tested.

Scott Marchant says that automated testing helps ensure that public applications are the best possible quality for their end users and customers. “Non-IT trained end users can effortlessly test their own applications, eliminating the hassle and headaches of non-working systems.”

“Our clients want to deploy new systems to their end-users and customers as quickly as possible to maintain or gain competitive advantage, and need the assurance they will perform to expectations.”

— Scott Marchant, Managing Director, TestPro



About TestPro

TestPro is an Australian IT Services provider with a specialist focus on assisting its clients to deliver projects at a higher quality and with less risk, through its consulting services and product expertise in the software quality and testing field. The experience of its highly skilled team has been gained through many delivery exercises, working on web-based systems, ERP software and a wide range of custom applications. www.testpro.com.au

For more information

To learn more about how IBM Rational software can support the software development and delivery process, contact your IBM sales representative or visit: ibm.com/software/rational/

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