

QUALITIMES

A QUALITY THAT DOES NOT CHANGE WITH TIMES

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Editorial Panel

- Prachi P
- Sunmeet S
- Venu M

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with subject - "Membership -
Editorial Panel".*

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Editor's Choice...

Anna & his weapon for mass expectations

Jyoti Raghavan

Much though as I promised myself to abstain from the temptation of commenting on the recent campaign against corruption, I find myself invariably giving in but since much has already been said about the plausibility/feasibility of the entire exercise, it would be interesting to know what is going on inside Anna Hazare's mind? How is he coping with his newfound demi-god/superhero status where everyone wants a pie of him to feel relevant? Try walking on the street with four of your acquaintances staring at you & you are guaranteed to feel uncomfortable, how then, is he living in the sudden glare of the limelight where millions of eyes are upon him, almost all of them strangers, watching him with admiration, contempt, suspicion & the most difficult of them all, reverence? Difficult because reverence carries in itself the great burden of expectations, expectations of heroic deeds, miracles & deliverance of the promises made and being on the wrong side of 70's is hardly an advantage when thrown in such a situation when even a much younger person would cower for want of more stamina of the physical kind. With people waiting with bated breath to hear you say the words which would articulate their angst with the current scenario, how do you hold on to silence as Anna has so successfully been doing? And when people look up to you to give vent to their anger & exact revenge upon the atrocious system on their behalf, how do you then remain composed in the face of such expectations?

These are the questions to which the answers from anyone other than Anna can be at best, a guesswork but one thing is certain that the burden of expectations of millions of people would perhaps break the spirit of even a young person but Anna despite his 74 year old shoulders, is giving the mighty Atlas a run for his money, cutting across cynicism & expectations alike, with a weapon called "Silence".

If there was a living proof to the "*If speech is silver, then silence is golden*" adage, it would be our man of the moment.

Shhhhhhhhhh to that!

(Anna Hazare is one of India's well-acclaimed social activists. He was a soldier in the Indian Army who opted voluntary retirement at the age of 38 and pledged to dedicate his life in the service of humanity thereafter.)

[Has anything to share - We are all ears!! Please send in your articles to: qualitimes@qualitreeinc.com]

Automation of Cloud Testing - Part 2 (Trends & Challenges)

The test design approach has six essential principles:

1. No more than 5% of all tests should be executed manually

The cost of introducing automation is usually significant. By maximizing the investment, automating a high percentage of test cases, the return of a rewarding payoff is more likely.

2. No more than 5% of all efforts around testing should involve automating the tests

Creating more and better test cases is key to proper test design. When testers spend significant portions of their time programming automation, test cases tend to be shallow, addressing only the basic functionalities of the system.

Allocating time for in-depth development allows testers to write more elaborate cases, using testing techniques such as decision tables or soap opera testing, as well as their imagination (a frequently underestimated asset). The result is better coverage with less effort at the tool end.

3. Test development and automation must be fully separated

To make sure that test cases are sufficiently in-depth, a distinction must be made between the responsibilities of testers and programmers. For successful Cloud test automation, testers must be dedicated only to testing.

4. Test cases must have a clear and differentiated scope

Each test case should be well-defined in its scope and purpose, and together test cases should map out comprehensive coverage while avoiding overlap and omissions.

5. Tests must be written in the right level of abstraction

Tools for conducting tests must be flexible enough to handle both higher business levels and lower user interface (UI) levels on demand.

6. Test methods must be simple

The method used to achieve effective test design, and the subsequent high coverage automation, should be easy and straightforward. Most of all, it should not add to the complexity of automation.

These principles of test design ensure the adaptability required for successful automated testing in the Cloud. Software development companies that have automated most of their testing, focus most of their efforts on testing, have dedicated testers trained to create comprehensive, flexible test design and produce useful, accessible results will be well-equipped for travel at the speed of service.

Cloud Testing: Trends & Challenges

Software Testing: *"The process of analyzing a software item to detect the differences between existing and required conditions (that is, bugs), and to evaluate the features of the software item."* (Ref. IEEE Std 829)

What does that mean?

It means testers execute an application with the intent of finding defects or bugs. We execute the application in an environment that is set as close as possible to how the customers or end users will be using the system. This was easier when the application was installed in a local and controlled environment. Software testers could control the variables within these systems to replicate customer environments and test the application. Now, with the cloud comes challenges that are somewhat different from traditional software testing.

What is Cloud Computing?

Cloud computing in simple terms is Internet-based computing. Users (consumers and businesses) can use applications from any computer through the Internet on demand. This is being forecast as the next big thing in the technology industry, and it is certainly a focus for Wolters Kluwer (see David Bergstein's posts on the benefits of cloud computing for accounting firms). The cloud gives the opportunity for collaboration without boundaries. Companies can increase capacity without investing a lot in infrastructure. More and more companies will jump onto this bandwagon and will promote integration of services across borders. Services can be offered as software (SaaS – software as service), platform (PaaS – platform as service) or as infrastructure (IaaS – infrastructure as a service).

Who is in the cloud? *Wolters Kluwer, Google, Microsoft, Hewlett Packard, IBM, Salesforce, Amazon to name a few.*

What are some testing challenges in cloud computing?

- **Dependency on the Internet** – Applications are not installed locally in controlled environments. This makes it harder for testers to replicate the user environment.
- **Security**- Since information travels through the Internet, testers have to perform security testing to make sure there is no data leakage when data is sent over the Internet. Wikileaks is an example of threats that we have to prepare for and test before the application can be released to customers.

Testing all layers – testing the network connection, server performance, database, and software application adds multiple layers to testing. Testers have to test the communication between the layers, test the connection between the elements, and also plan for the risks. What if the connection breaks mid-way? What if the server is down? What if the software crashes? Testers have to test beyond what they can physically control in their environment.

Keeping a close eye on these areas ensures that cloud applications and products are safe, secure, and competitive. The cloud is here to stay and software testers and development teams will have to stay ahead of the curve to be able to support leading software applications in the cloud.

SANGAM - 2011

Punches, pulls and bumps!!

- Sept 8 - Amit C
- Sept 9 - Jacob B
- Sept 15 - Prabhjot B
- Sept 18 - Pradeep Y
- Sept 22 - Brian T
- Sept 26 - Rohan P
- Sept 29 - Vishwa M
- Sept 30 - Ashwini S



Answers to last month's Jumble:

CHIMP
BOTNET
GRIEFER
PHISH

Last Month's Winner:
Rohan P

Other correct entries:

Bharath S, Kishore K, Mahaveer K, Jacob B

Sangam 2011— A gala dance, drink and dine event



was hosted by Qualitree's Bangalore staff on the eve of the 64th Independence day of India. The event had a lot of diverse activities for many different folks. Beginning in the evening, there was food, drinks, moon bounces and face painters for kids and various contest prizes for the kids as well as the adults. Besides sumptuous food, fine wines, champagne and jazzy music to groove, there was also a felicitation ceremony for the meritorious staff for their commendable job duties. Kudos to the organizers and hope to see more of these events in future.



JUMBLE

RPGHOE ○○○○○○

EHACC ○○○○○○

IOKOEC ○○○○○○

NFREIG ○○○○○○

Participate and win; the first correct entry wins a gift of \$10.00*. Send in your completed entries to: jumble_qualitimes@qualitreeinc.com



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BUZZ OF THE MONTH

- Qualitree - Bangalore celebrates its yearly greet, meet, dance and dine event incarnated as "Sangam - 2011" in style. Congratulations to all for participating and making the event a great success!
- Prabhjot S Bal, Qualitree's TTCN-3 connoisseur, rings in TTCN -3 trainings at Polycom, IISC and a mega training event under the Faculty Development program at Reva Institute of technology and management.
- Qualitree's US arm embarked and successfully accomplished a mega training event for globally distributed teams of Polycom.
- C-DOT stamps its trust on TT Workbench by signing up for the support and maintenance of the product line.
- A healthcare major from the province of Quebec, Canada approaches Qualitree for its software testing services.

Nayee Kranti

Aisa Chaya Tha Brasht Andhiyara Desh Par

Aas Kam Thee Roshni Ki Kiran ko Lekar

Tab Goonja Ek Swar Jan Bhavana Samajhkar

Saath Jude Karodo Swar Jan Andolan Mein Badalkar

Badh Chala Yeh Aandhi Aur Toofan Ka Roop Lekar

Rakh Diya Sarkar Ka Hosh Udhakar

Shadyantr Huve Sach Ko Dabane Majboor Hokar

Par Huve Nakam Anna Ka Dhrud Sankalp Ko Pakar

Anthathah Huyee Satya Aur Dharm Kee Jai Jai Kar

Anna Tum Dum Lena Sara Bhrastachar Ko Mitakar

- Venu M

Last month's winner:

Bharath S

Other correct entries:

- * Srikanth K
- * Amit C
- * Tanvi K
- * Kishore K
- * Minal D

Answers to last month's
Word Puzzle:

- EARACHE
- TUMULT
- HEARTH
- PICKUP
- KIOSK

Word Puzzle

In the following word puzzles, a word starts and ends with the same letter. Figure out the words and win*

1	_ V A D _	
2	_ Z A L E _	
3	_ A S B A _	
4	_ R A C _	
5	_ R A I _	

* Send in your entries to "qualitimes@qualitreeinc.com" with the subject "Word Puzzle"

The first correct entry wins a gift of \$10.00