



factsheet
Testing

Test automation

We help you take full advantage of the potential of test automation

Test automation – a much-discussed topic

There is a great deal of talk about test automation. Cost pressures, however, often mean that investment is postponed – sometimes even cancelled altogether. At other times automation might well be adopted, but then fails to get the maintenance it needs.

So is all this talk about test automation just a lot of hot air? Absolutely not! After all, well-planned and properly executed test automation allows you to maintain effective quality assurance over all releases and patches.

What is test automation?

Test automation involves the carrying out of tests using tools; these range from manual tools all the way to fully automatic systems where all you get is information on the outcome of the tests. There are many tools on the market offered by a variety of manufacturers, but not every tool works in every situation.

Maximising potential

Test automation has a strategic potential. Automation allows tests to be carried out and repeated in short cycles with much-reduced staff overheads. Automation enables you to drastically cut the time it takes to run a test. It also means you can achieve continuous integration by running a test every time you change an aspect of your system: every change you make can thus be quickly and effectively checked, and any problems identified and rectified without delay.

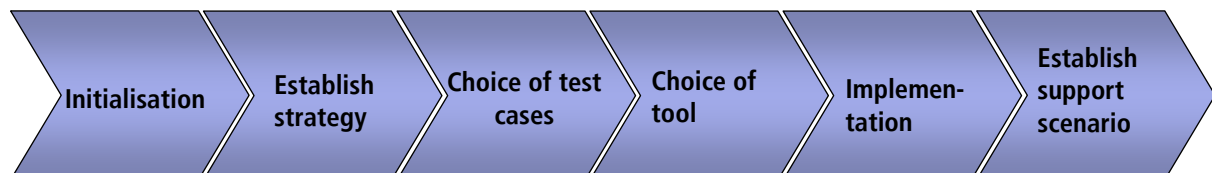
Limits

Test automation is not entirely self-actualising; it involves added cost and time implications in the early stages, not just in terms of setting up, but for the required maintenance and expansions of the test scripts as well. Maintenance, in particular, plays a crucial role in determining the effectiveness of your automation: will the automation endure, or will it enjoy only short-term success because follow-up releases no longer make use of the automation and the investment fails ultimately to pay off? This calls for the proper implementation of an automation framework and the modification or establishment of appropriate processes. Although test automation can greatly reduce the outlay implicated in manual testing, it cannot get rid of it altogether.

Factors for success

An automation project requires an initial investment in terms of tools and scripts. To safeguard this investment and steer the project to success, the following aspects need to be considered:

1. The choice of test cases capable of being automated
2. The choice of an appropriate tool capable of processing the test cases as planned
3. The embedding of the tool in a maintenance scenario and appropriate framework
4. The periodic/continuous execution of automated tests
5. The maintenance of automation scripts



Test automation workflow

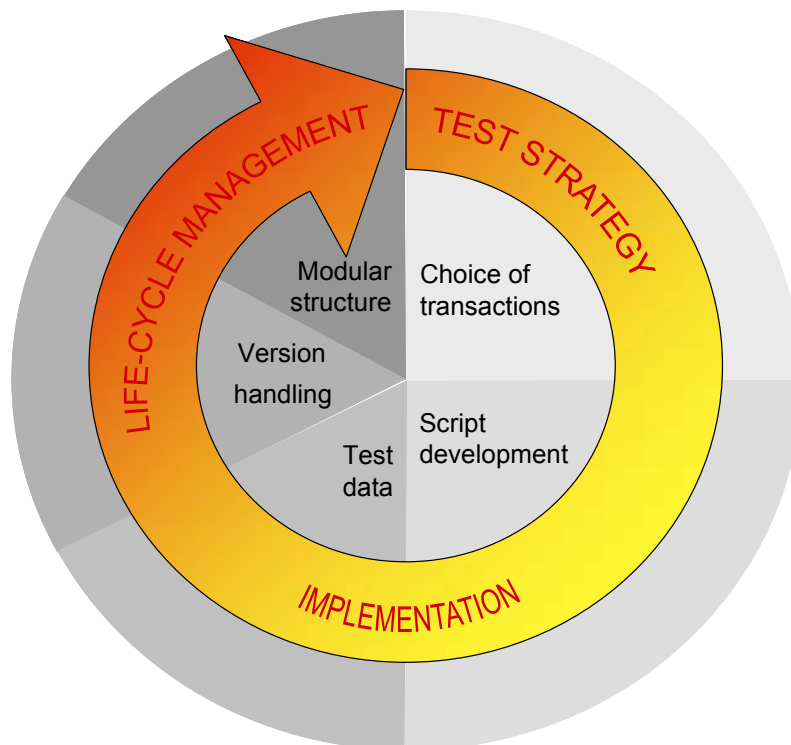
What test automation involves

We help you take full advantage of test automation and work closely with you to establish an automation strategy. We identify the test cases most suited to automation. Our experts help you choose the best-suited tool and facilitate the automation system within an appropriate framework.

We help you establish the processes you need for maintenance and further development. This means you can benefit fully from the strategic potential that test automation provides.

COMIT test automation is well worth it because you can

1. Conduct tests every time you change an aspect of the system
2. Identify and rectify faults early
3. Boost the efficiency of subsequent manual tests
4. Secure the long-term viability of automation projects
5. Quickly deliver tangible improvements
6. Benefit fully from the potential of test automation



Test automation framework

COMIT – your trusted testing partner

COMIT has the requisite expertise and extensive experience in the field of testing. Our staff are ISTQB/SAQ-certified, receive regular training and are familiar with best practice thanks to the large number of projects already completed.

We foster active knowledge management by operating communities of practice. Our test experts collaborate closely with each other and pool their expertise to ensure that you always have access to our vast, in-depth wealth of experience.

Our team of 35 test experts based in Switzerland and Austria has for many years been actively involved in client projects. We provide our clients with the support they need when it comes to implementing and specifying tests, test management and automation. We also audit existing testing processes and methods and offer our clients solutions tailored to their requirements.

Contacts

Dr. Hans-Joachim Lotzer, hans-joachim.lotzer@comit.ch

Katja Gfeller, katja.gfeller@comit.ch

COMIT has served the finance industry for more than 25 years with professional IT services within the value-added chain: from strategic consulting through system implementation to the development and operation of the implemented IT solutions. Our areas of expertise are e consulting & solutions, the implementation of core solutions, especially Avaloq and Finnova core banking platforms, application management, and IT infrastructure services. COMIT is an independent subsidiary of Swisscom IT Services. We employ 700 IT and business specialists at different locations in Switzerland, Austria, Germany, Singapore, and Luxembourg.

Head office

COMIT AG
CH-8004 Zürich
www.comit.ch

COMIT GmbH
A-1010 Wien
www.comit.at

COMIT GmbH
D-60528 Frankfurt a. M.
www.comit-consulting.de

COMIT Solutions Pte. Ltd.
Singapore (088454)
www.comit.sg

COMIT Luxembourg S.à.r.l.
L-1259 Senningerberg
www.comit.lu