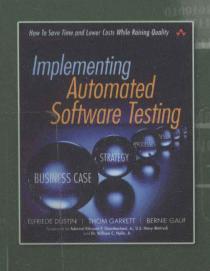
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自动化软件测试实施指南

Implementing Automated Software TestingHow to Save Time and Lower Costs While Raising Quality



[美] Thom Garrett 著
Bernie Gauf

自动化软件测试 实施指南

(英文版)

Implementing Automated Software Testing
How to Save Time and Lower Costs While Raising Quality

Eifriede Dusitin

「美 Thom Garrett 著

電子工業出版社・ Publishing House of Electronics Industry 北京・BEIJING

内容简介

本书讲解什么是自动化测试,为什么要进行自动化测试,以及实施自动化测试过程中的各种方法和需要注意的问题。全书分为两个部分,第一部分中作者以自身的经验诠释了自动化测试的重要性以及好处;第二部分具体讲解了自动化测试中的6个要点,包括需求收集、制定自动化测试策略、测试自动化软件测试框架、持续跟踪过程并调整、实施自动化测试过程以及恰当的人员安排。附录中还给出了具体的自动化测试实例。

本书适合作为软件测试自动化相关课程的双语教材,也适合软件测试人员、质量评估人员、项目管理人员和软件开发人员作为参考用书。

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Foreword

by Admiral Edmund P. Giambastiani, Jr.

Today, the world turns over so rapidly that you have to build in a culture of change and innovation on a day-to-day basis. Innovation is an every-single-day part of a soldier, sailor, airman, Marine, or Coast Guardsman's life. Over the course of my military career, I was fortunate to see and experience the dramatic impact innovation has on the war fighter. One area where there has been tremendous innovation is in the field of information technology. The systems that we deploy today are now comprised of millions of lines of software, computer processor speeds we thought were unimaginable a decade ago, and networks that provide extraordinary bandwidth.

Despite these innovations, the need to respond to emerging threats is greater than ever, and the time in which we need to respond continues to decrease. From an information technology perspective, this means we need to be able to make software changes and field the associated capability improvements more rapidly than ever before. Rapidly but effectively testing changes is vital; however, for many programs more than 50% of the schedule is currently devoted to testing.

Innovative Defense Technologies (IDT) has taken the lead on providing an innovative solution to testing that I believe is needed in order for us to keep pace with an ever changing threat. With this book, Implementing Automated Software Testing, they have developed a guide that can help implement successful automated software testing programs and efforts. This book includes experience-based case studies and a thorough dissection of automated software testing issues and solutions. This book articulates how to develop the business case for automated software testing and provides a lifecycle approach to automated software testing programs. With Implementing Automated Software Testing, IDT is

providing timely and necessary material that allows responsible parties to implement an effective automated software testing program.

Admiral Edmund P. Giambastiani, Jr. United States Navy (Retired) Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff (2005–2007)

Foreword

by Dr. William Nylin, Jr.

When I first began developing software systems in the mid-1960s, testing was primarily a programmer's responsibility; end users validated a relatively small sample of test cases. During the next two decades, more time was spent on testing, but there was significant test case overlap between programming staff testing and end users or a specific testing group. The redundant testing was expensive and delayed project implementation. When errors were discovered, the time lag for correction and revalidation was expensive. Today, a significant portion of the time and cost to market for software products is spent on testing. With the increasing complexity and size of the software included in products, my expectation is that the amount of testing required in the future will only continue to increase. Vast improvements in testing technologies are required, and automated software testing is one of the most promising answers.

The purpose of automated software testing is to increase testing efficiencies via effective use of time and resources, to allow for increased test permutations and combinations, as needed, to avoid test execution redundancy while increasing test coverage, and to allow for automated results analysis, resulting in increased quality and reliability of the software within the same or a reduced testing time frame. IDT's book *Implementing Automated Software Testing* provides extensive technical guidance for implementing an effective automated software testing program. The book provides experience-based automated software testing recommendations and solutions applicable to software testing programs across the board. Applying the automated software testing best practices and guidelines provided in this book will help improve your testing program and ultimately support your business in delivering software products on time, on budget, and with the highest quality. In addition, the book gives practical and

realistic advice on how to compute your return on investment for automated testing solutions. It helps the user understand where to best utilize automated testing and when it may not be cost-effective.

Finally, an additional advantage of automated software testing is the ability to formally audit the testing process. Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (SOX 404) requires, as of 2004, that each annual report of a public company include a report by management on the company's internal control over financial reporting. Furthermore, the company's external auditors are required to attest to management's assessment. Management information systems are perhaps the most critical components of internal control systems. Thus, the ability to have an independent audit of the testing processes for new systems can be critical for future large-system development and implementation.

Dr. William Nylin, Jr. Executive Vice Chairman and Director Conn's, Inc.

Preface

Is your test automation strategy a losing proposition? Are you soured on the notion of automated software testing based on less than adequate past results? Are your test automation silver bullets missing their mark? Are you disappointed in your test automators? We at IDT¹ have identified a boilerplate solution, strategies, and ideas, all provided in this book, that can help increase the chances of your automated testing success.

Given the arsenal of system and application software testing strategies, techniques, and solutions, automated software testing is one of the most effective practices that if implemented correctly can help increase testing efficiencies and ultimately reduce the testing cost while contributing to increased systems and software quality in terms of faster, broader, and more efficient defect detection.

This book is a guide that can help organizations implement successful automated software testing programs and efforts. The book does not provide gimmicks or magical solutions, as none exist, but it provides experience-based discussions and recommendations. It includes a thorough dissection of automation issues, such as in Part I of the book, where we describe what automated software testing is and is not; why a business case is required for successful automation, including step-by-step instructions for developing one; why to automate and when. Then we summarize why automation often fails and the pitfalls and blunders that can be prevented; we describe the tools that are available to help implement successful automation efforts, with a focus on open-source testing tools. In Part II of the book we present six keys to successfully implementing automated software testing. These are

- Key 1: Know Your Requirements
- Key 2: Develop the Automated Test Strategy

^{1.} www.idtus.com.

- Key 3: Test the Automated Software Test Framework (ASTF)
- Key 4: Continuously Track Progress—and Adjust Accordingly
- Key 5: Implement AST Processes
- Key 6: Put the Right People on the Project—Know the Skill Sets Required

IDT conducted two separate surveys related to automated software testing with approximately 700 total responses from test professionals all over the world, across organizations that were diverse in size and in what they do. The survey showed two very consistent themes:

- About 70% of survey respondents said they believe automation is highpayoff, but they are generally not sure why to automate and how automation applies to their project.
- Half of the survey respondents also said they felt they lacked the experience, time, or budgets to implement automation.

Most seem to agree: Automated software testing is useful, and an increasing need for it exists. However, the lack of experience seems to be the reason why automation is not implemented more often with a higher success rate. Finding people with the skills for the project is therefore important; a summary of skills required is provided in Chapter 10. For more details on the outcome of this survey, see Chapter 4.

Material Coverage and Book Organization

Part I: What Is Automated Software Testing and Why Should We Automate?

Chapter 1, What Is Effective Automated Software Testing (AST)?, describes what automated software testing is. The definition of automated software testing we use throughout this book is the "application and implementation of software technology throughout the entire software testing lifecycle (STL) with the goal to improve STL efficiencies and effectiveness."

In Chapter 2, Why Automate?, we address this question that is asked so often. Here we discuss the challenges of software testing today and how the time

and cost of software testing can be reduced. Reasons for why to automate, laying the foundation to help build the business case discussed step by step in Chapter 3, are presented here.

In Chapter 3, The Business Case, we define a step-by-step approach to defining the business case, which will cover the business need, the reasons for an automated software testing project, the business benefits (tangible and intangible), an analysis of the expected costs and timescales, an investment appraisal, and return on investment (ROI).

Chapter 4, Why Automated Software Testing Fails and Pitfalls to Avoid, clarifies some of the myths and realities surrounding automated software testing. The goal is for companies and organizations to review the lessons described here and not to repeat them during their automated software testing implementations.

Part II: How to Automate: Top Six Keys for Automation Payoff

Once management has been convinced by the business case that was laid out in Part I of this book and understands the pitfalls to avoid and the realities of automated testing, the next step is to determine how to automate. Part II of the book addresses how to successfully implement the various automated software testing tasks. We have determined that successful automated software testing can be achieved by implementing six top keys, described next.

Chapter 5, Key 1: Know Your Requirements, covers the importance of understanding the requirements before developing an automated testing strategy. Here we discuss approaches to determining the problem we are trying to solve along with how to gather information when requirements are not available.

Chapter 6, Key 2: Develop the Automated Test Strategy, discusses developing an automated testing approach in detailed steps, including test environment considerations, configuration management for automated test scripts, and related artifacts, among others. Here we also discuss what to consider when deciding what to automate and the importance of choosing the right tool, whether open-source, vendor-provided, or in-house-developed.

Chapter 7, Key 3: Test the Automated Software Test Framework (ASTF), covers the importance of understanding testing techniques and documenting test cases as part of automated testing. Automators often forget that documentation is still a vital part of the automated test program. The test case documentation serves as the blueprint for the automated software testing efforts. This chapter describes the importance of tracing test cases back to requirements; the content of the test cases, such as needing to include inputs and expected results;

and how documented test cases become the basis for developing and implementing the automated tests.

Chapter 8, Key 4: Continuously Track Progress—and Adjust Accordingly, addresses the importance of tracking the goal that was set at the outset of the automation program. For example, during the discussion of business case development in Chapter 3 we explain the need for defining goals; in this chapter we discuss how peer reviews, inspections, and various automation and testing metrics can help measure and track progress against those goals.

Chapter 9, Key 5: Implement AST Processes, points out the need for a lightweight process. Some automated testing scripts can be implemented successfully without much process in place, but in order to effectively implement a large automated testing program a lightweight adaptable process should be in place. This chapter discusses a summary of this process, linking back to the details in various chapters.

Chapter 10, Key 6: Put the Right People on the Project—Know the Skill Sets Required, clarifies the skill sets needed for developing automated software testing, for instance, a skill set similar to that of the software development team, which includes requirements analysis, design, software development, and testing. Key 6 points out that although knowledge of testing techniques and analytical skills is important, effective automated software testing implementation requires software development skills. The skills described here parallel the automated testing process described in Chapter 9.

Audience

The target audience of this book is software test professionals such as test managers, leads, and practitioners. It is also geared toward all quality assurance professionals, QA leads, and practitioners. Project managers and software developers looking to improve the effectiveness and quality of their software delivery will also benefit from this book.

Acknowledgments

Thanks to all of the software professionals who have helped support the development of this book. Special thanks go to IDT employees Scott Bindas, Marcus Borch, and Vinny Vallarine, who are contributing authors to this book and whose bios are listed in the back of the book. Their valuable contributions to this effort as a whole have greatly added to the content, presentation, and overall quality of the material. Additional thanks go to IDT employees Pete Bria and Burt LeJune for their editorial contributions to sections of this book.

Additional thanks go to our reviewers who added to the quality and content of this book. They are Joe Strazzere and Jake Brake, both long-time and experienced moderators on the popular software quality assurance site www.sqaforums.com, Jim Hazen, Rob Sabourin, Professor Jeff Offutt, Dr. Satyam Priyadarshy, and Jeff Rashka, PMP, co-author of Automated Software Testing, and Quality Web Systems. Their edits and contributions were invaluable.

Also we much appreciate the inputs and efforts of our foreword writers, Admiral Edmund P. Giambastiani, Jr., USN (retired), and Dr. William Nylin, Jr.

We also would like to thank the staff at Addison-Wesley, especially Peter Gordon and Kim Boedigheimer, for all their effective ideas and useful input; also Elizabeth Ryan, John Fuller, and Stephane Nakib for their efforts; and finally our copy editor, Barbara Wood, for her valuable suggestions to help make this book a quality product.

About the Authors

Elfriede Dustin, Thom Garrett, and Bernie Gauf work together at Innovative Defense Technologies (www.idtus.com), which specializes in the design, development, and implementation of automated software testing solutions.

Elfriede Dustin has authored multiple software testing books and articles based on her many years of actual hands-on automated software testing experience. Elfriede leads IDT's efforts in automated software testing research programs.

Thom Garrett has experience in planning, testing, and deployment of complex systems for DoD and commercial applications for companies such as Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), Digital System Resources (DSR), Inc., and America Online (AOL). Thom received a master's degree from the University of San Francisco.

Bernie Gauf is the president of IDT. Bernie has been invited to participate in numerous DoD panels associated with the use of new technology, testing conferences, and as a guest speaker to share his insights on automated software testing.

Contents

		For	eword by Admiral Edmund P. Giambastiani, Jr.	. 15
		Fore	eword by Dr. William Nylin, Jr.	· 17
		Prej	face	· 19
		Ack	nowledgments	· 23
		Abo	out the Authors	· 24
J.	Wł	hat Is	Automated Software Testing and Why Should	
	We	Auto	omate?	1
	1.	Wha	t Is Effective Automated Software Testing (AST)?	3
		1.1	Automated Software Testing Definition	4
		1.2	Automated Software Testing Recipes	5
		1.3	Advances in AST Technologies	8
		1.4	Automating Various Software Testing Types	11
		1.5	Providing AST-Based Production Support Support Troubleshooting the Production Issue, As Needed Support Identifying the Specific Program Components Affected by	16 16
			the Correction	16
			Verify the Accuracy and Quality of the Program Correction	17
			Support the Production STR Triage	17
		1.6	Automating Standards Assessments	18
			Summary	20
			Notes	21
	2.	Why	Automate?	23
		2.1	The Challenges of Testing Software Today	24
		2.2	Reducing the Time and Cost of Software Testing Automated Test Planning and Development—Initial Test Effort Increase	26 28

		Test Data Generation—Test Effort/Schedule Decrease	28		
		Test Execution—Test Effort/Schedule Decrease	32		
		Test Results Analysis—Test Effort/Schedule Decrease	33		
		Error Status/Correction Monitoring—Test Effort/Schedule Decrease	35		
		Report Creation—Test Effort/Schedule Decrease	37		
		Other Mitigating Factors to Consider	37		
	2.3	Impacting Software Quality	38		
	2.4	Improvements to Your Software Test Program	42		
		Improved Build Verification Testing (Smoke Test)	43		
		Improved Regression Testing	43		
		Multiplatform and Configuration Compatibility Testing	44		
		Improved Execution of Mundane Tests	44		
		Improved Focus on Advanced Test Issues	44		
		Testing What Manual Testing Can't Accomplish	45		
		Ability to Reproduce Software Defects	45		
		Enhancement of System Expertise	45		
		After-Hours "Lights-Out" Testing	45		
		Improved Requirements Definition	46		
		Improved Performance Testing	46		
		Improved Stress and Endurance Testing	47		
		Quality Measurements and Test Optimization	47		
		Improved System Development Lifecycle	48		
		Improved Documentation and Traceability	48		
		Distributed Workload and Concurrency Testing	49		
		Summary	49		
		Notes	50		
3.	The Business Case				
	3.1	Definition of the Business Case	51		
	3.2	Identifying the Business Needs	53		
		Need for Speeding Up the Testing Effort and Increasing Efficiency	53		
		Need for Decreasing the Testing Cost	54		
		Need for Applying Test Team Member Skills Most Effectively	55		
	3.3	Justifying Automation in Terms of Cost and Benefits	55		
		Estimating ROI	55		
		Overall Test Automation Savings	5 <i>7</i>		
		Test Environment Setup Time Savings	5 <i>7</i>		
		Test Development Time Savings	59		
		Test Execution Time Savings	61		
		Test Evaluation/Diagnostics Time Savings	62		
		Other ROI Considerations	63		
		More ROI Metrics	65		
	3.4	Risks	65		
	3.5	Other Considerations	67		

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