

Title of Paper

The Future of Testing

Presenter

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Level

Intermediate

Target Group

Test Managers & Test Practitioners

Abstract

Paul considers the past, present and future of testing in the context of seven influences that drive the IT industry – and indirectly the testing industry.

These influences are:

Technological change; Pervasive computing; New Markets, New Competition; Cultural Values and Attitudes to IT; Business Change; ERP and Configurable Packages; and Business Attitudes to IT.

The testing industry is examined in seven dimensions.

These are:

- Attitudes to testing;
- Process and Techniques;
- Improvement; Tools;
- Certification and Training;
- Outsourced testing;
- People;
- Skills and the Job Market.

This talk looks at testing through the evolution of IT and business perception of it in each of the seven dimensions. Based on the history of testing to date, Paul draws some interesting conclusions and makes some surprising predictions for the future.

One outcome Paul suggests, is that there is increasing demand for training and certification schemes that are based more on competence, rather than memory. What would such schemes look like?

Biography

Paul is Principal of Gerrard Consulting, an influential testing services company based in the UK. He has been a developer, project manager, and consultant in all aspects of testing and quality assurance. He is an author, webmaster, coach, teacher, consultant and conference keynote speaker.

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