

Announcing the launch of
QMetry 3.0

QMetry 3.0 is creating a big buzz, try it Now!!

Personalization

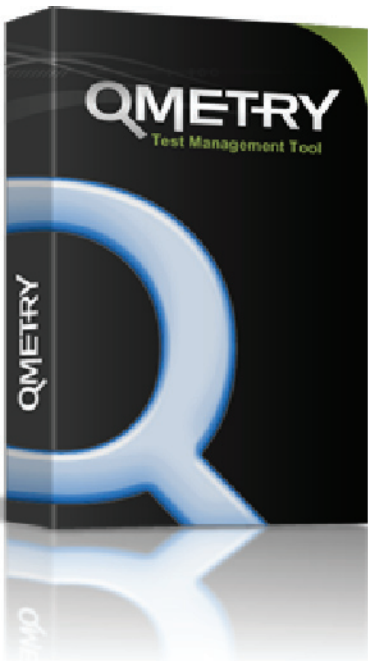
- User Defined Fields
- Role Based Access Control
- Automatic Email Notification
- Customized Reports and Lists
- Add Attachments at any Stage

Usability

- Full Audit Trail
- Project Clone Feature
- Chart to Data Navigation
- Automatic Version Control
- Intuitive GUI : Zero Training required

Integration

JIRA, Bugzilla, Mantis, Elementool, Selenium, SilkTest, Watir, QTP



QMETRY Newsletter

Test Management Tools

The Future of Test Management

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Challenges: Hindrances to smooth outsourced testing process

Outsourcing of QA & Testing is one of the biggest growing Businesses these days. According to the Gartner Research Report, 'Market Trends: Application Development, Worldwide, 2008-2013', the global software testing market equals \$13 billion and the global market size of outsourced QA & Testing services is around \$6.1 billion. While outsourcing software testing one should keep in mind that the successful completion of the software depends on a lot of factors.

Let's talk about the "C's" (Challenges) of outsourced testing: Communication, Collaboration, Consistency, Control, Change Management and how they impact adversely if not managed properly.

Communication : There can be circumstances when the project goes haywire if one does not properly track it. Communication with offshore team is required to know the status of project. It helps not only to keep track of the project but also avoids unnecessary hassles later on. An effective communication will help in bringing about a lot of effective changes in an outsourcing project; especially when it comes to monitoring the work flow and also the way these tasks are done through outsourcing and off shoring, this was the reason why the term "remote communication" was introduced.

Collaboration : Collaboration is a recursive process where two or more people or organizations work together to meet and achieve common goals. Thus, it is beneficial for both the sides to work towards achieving the common goal. The need to coexist and the need for symbiosis gave a rise to the need where the Client as well as the Service Provider had to be on the same level. This gave rise to the need for 'Collaborative software' (also referred to as groupware or workgroup support systems) is software designed to help people involved in a common task achieve their goals. Collaborative software is the basis for computer supported cooperative work.

Consistency: Humans by nature are not 100% consistent and tend to make mistakes. A lot of outside factors affect the Consistency of the output of the work which has to be delivered with the Client- Service Provider relationship. There can never be consistency until and unless there is a set method or a structure which has to be followed.

Control : A Very Strong and Project Centric Approach: As far as the quality of the project is concerned, one should know what the exact and latest artifacts are. Test execution progress, testcases, requirements, and defect tracking charts should all be at the tips of one's fingers at any given point. Testers should spend less time answering questions such as what percentage of tests are completed, where are we in the testing

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QMOMETRY TIP :

List management in QMetry

QMetry provides you a customized list. It consists of User Defined lists and System Defined lists, which can be used as User defined fields in Requirements, Testcases, and the Testsuite Module as a drop down menu.

FAQ :

How does QMetry ensure integrity & security of a project?

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cycle, and how many critical bugs are there? Moreover, they can get back to doing what they do best, testing!

Change Management : Keeping track of changes in requirements, testcases and defects is very vital to the success of any project. All modifications, additions, or deletions should be recorded and should be available by selecting the respective version. So, the team never has to worry about trying to figure out when and why a certain change was made or who did it.

QMetry as a Solution

A test management tool like Qmetry can help the teams to integrate, collaborate and co-ordinate the entire testing process to increase testing effectiveness and efficiencies. Qmetry improves consistency, organization, and control throughout the testing process. QMetry stores all the test assets in a version controlled centralized repository. Information is available to different users based on the access privileges. Version Control on the centralized repository allows you to track updates & changes from anywhere. QMetry also keeps track of change history with date/time stamps, users, and machine details for most of the testing assets.

Quality is never an accident it is always a result of high intention, sincere effort, intelligent deduction and skillful execution. It represents the wise choice of many alternatives. In a nutshell, taking all these factors into consideration, one can easily make the best out of outsourcing testing projects.

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QMetry Roadmap : QMetry – JIRA Integration

QMetry acts as a convergence platform for various tools used across testing life cycle. JIRA is one such widely used bug tracking/issue tracking/project management tool. If you are a JIRA user, we have news to share: QMetry – JIRA Integration of the next level is on the road map and we are excited to share the highlights with you.

With current QMetry – JIRA integration you can:

- ▶ Create JIRA issue from QMetry testcase
- ▶ Create QMetry TestCase from JIRA issue
- ▶ Associate JIRA defect to QMetry Test case or requirement and fetch the defect details like defect description, defect details, status, priority & component
- ▶ View the details of the JIRA issues in QMetry and redirect them from JIRA to QMetry
- ▶ Exhaustive graphs and charts to display the statistics of JIRA defects in QMetry Dashboard and Reports

Features on our Roadmap:

- ▶ Multi-directional communication
- ▶ Test case-to-defect traceability
- ▶ Requirement-to-defect traceability
- ▶ Few of the other activities that you can perform:
 - ▶ Create JIRA issues from QMetry and link it to QMetry testcases
 - ▶ Create new Test cases in QMetry from JIRA and associate it to current issue in JIRA
 - ▶ Associate issues in JIRA with existing Test cases in QMetry
- ▶ Search for QMetry Test case into JIRA and create defect with that information and associate defect with that Test case.

*Download the [JIRA Plug-in](#)

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QMetry Feature Highlighted : Dashboard

No matter how distributed your team is, with QMetry Dashboard, you get real-time updates accessed from the centralized repository. The exhaustive charts and graphs in the dashboard enable quick and easy decision making. The Dashboard offers a consolidated display of various modules and actions linked to them in terms of effectiveness, performance and overall health of the application.

QMetry Dashboard is the landing page after you login. You can view the detailed metrics and statistics sorted by the following options:

Test Execution Progress

- ▶ By priority
- ▶ By Cycle
- ▶ By Component
- ▶ By Component & Priority
- ▶ Test Execution Status

Defects

- ▶ By priority
- ▶ By Cycle
- ▶ By Component
- ▶ By Component & Priority
- ▶ Test Execution Status

Test Case

- ▶ By Month
- ▶ By Component

Requirement

- ▶ By Component
- ▶ By Coverage

QMetryDashboard* has various easy-to-use features providing you simple Usability Interface :

Drill down overview:

Want the details of the parameters displayed on the chart/graph? Simply click on it and the interactive drill down feature will pop up a separate window with the details of the parameter. A further click will lead you to the details of respective module of that specific record.

Switch between views (Chart view/ Datagrid view):

You can choose the view as per your requirement and the dashboard supports it all. There is a link at the bottom of the chart to toggle the view; simple click on it will display the view in the desired form.

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View details of specific bar in form of tool tip:

Mouse over effects helps you to understand graph easily. Just move mouse onto specific bar will open a tool tip that displays information covered by that bar.

Generate Folder specific graph:

By default, graph will be generated for all the existing folders of the Test Suite. "Select (module name) Folder" has been provided for each graph. You just need to select folder name from the drop down list and folder specific graph will be ready instantly.

**Click to visit a detailed dashboard walkthrough video* 

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Traceability : Improving Quality

Traceability, in general terms can be referred to as "Completeness of the information about every step in a process chain". It is an essential paradigm in contexts of objects like 'Measurement', 'Logistics', 'Materials' and last but not least 'Software' to name a few. Software is almost omnipresent as it is used in simple data calculation process to mission critical and life support systems. And so present is its criticality, due to widespread implications on its failure. This emphasizes the importance of the software quality, standards and methodologies adapted during the Software Development Life Cycle. One of the essential practices to ensure quality standards is Traceability, which in this context can be defined as "The ability to describe and follow the life of a requirement, in both a forward and backward direction" also as "Key Weapon in the Compliance Arsenal".

Why Traceability is required in Software ?

In software engineering, the testing performs the verification of software using different types of information available in the project. A number of activities are based on the results of testing. This dependence means that there must be some kind of traceability between items involved. In other words, it must be possible to follow from the software implementation to testing information and from the testing information to the next iteration of implementation. Traceability is a standard which plays a vital role in assuring the quality of the product. Most of the software projects fail due to communication gap i.e. Gap between the requirements (expected product) and final product (actual product), traceability acts as a bridge between these gaps.

During SDLC of a Software Product, if a requirement/feature is not communicated from Requirement Gathering phase to Development phase and further to Quality Assurance phase then at the end of the cycle, we will receive a product which lacks required feature/s. This will lead to either rework or failure of the product. In this type of case, accurate traceability helps in bridging the gap and provides précised and desired quality product. Each phase of the SDLC can contribute to eradicate lack of traceability. The requirements should be traceable to QA phase through the intermittent phases like Development phase. This practice decreases rework in the further stages and also decreases the multiplication of defects which is expensive to fix later and gives more space to maximize test coverage.

Some Industry Standards

Organization which uses proper traceability techniques gets benefited undoubtedly. This is why traceability is an important component of many standards for software development;

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Such as the CMMI and ISO 9001:2000 Processes. Benefits of implementations of traceability can be realized in the areas like Project Management, Process Visibility, Quality Assurance, and Maintenance.

Traceability Matrix- Manual Practice

A traceability matrix can be defined as "a tabular structure that illustrates logical paths between individual functional requirements and quality artifacts like test cases". Its tabular format can be created using a spreadsheet or word processing applications. In this manual method, a unique Identifier is given to each requirement and it is linked with other system artifacts for example test case(s).

Traceability Matrix- Management Tool

Research has found that maintaining traceability manually has become complex as size of the software increases because the traceable objects grows exponentially with this. Due to this limitation most of the Industries practitioners are moving towards using Management Tools for managing the requirements as a more professional and efficient approach. Other benefit of Management Tools is that when the requirement changes it helps the stake holder to recognize the information/document that needs to be updated and aid him/her to identify the side effects of the changes. For long term and complex projects most of the industries are using the Management Tools to maintain the traceability. It requires less manual efforts and helps in improving productivity of the resources involved in the project.

Conclusion

This article has dragged attention towards the importance of the factor "Traceability" in the software development life cycle. Organizations which implement Traceability through manual methods tend to suffer down the line due to complexity issues. To overcome this limitation, one can use Qmetry which is a comprehensive Test Management Platform that provides easy to use interface to implement Traceability which helps test teams to integrate, collaborate and co-ordinate the testing process in very easy and efficient manner. QMetry provides extensive capability to manage requirements and link them to testcases as well as defects for traceability analysis. By defining Requirements, you can plan and manage tests that are more focused on your specific business needs. Requirements are then associated to tests and defects to provide complete traceability and to aid the decision-making process. The advanced search feature allows you to locate any requirement within seconds and see all versions. In addition, QMetry provides basic reports and allows you to generate advanced reports based off your requirements.

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