

Automate Script-Free

Point of View by:
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Empower manual testers to implement mundane task of automation. In spite of tool availability, achievable automation level is not more than half of the test cases that are in scope for testing. Script-free automation addresses this challenge by utilizing new approaches to ensure quicker automation by SMEs. Here the task of automation can be leveraged from Business Analysts to Manual Testers. This omits the specific involvement of an Automation Engineer to achieve automation.

SMEs and Business Analysts have extensive knowledge in domain, business processes and are well-versed in deciding the testing flow, but they are not well-equipped when it comes to their knowledge in automation tools. To cater to the automation needs we use licensed or open source tools. In addition, we require automation test engineers, with appropriate skill sets as per the tool of choice, to handle the complexity of the automation tools, leading to additional cost and management requirements. Based on the complexity, it becomes crucial to build frameworks to explore and

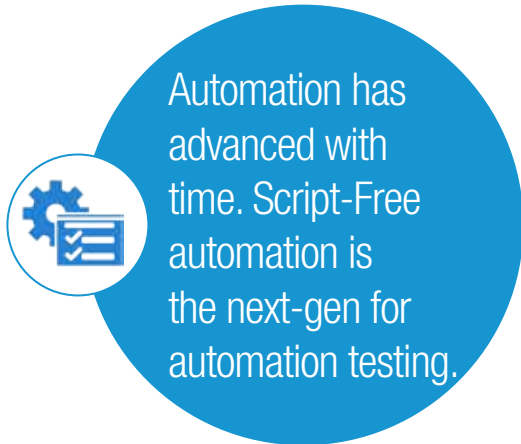
utilize the tool capabilities. Many times these are not built in-house and are rather purchased from third party frameworks to minus the effort, but it then adds to the cost. The overall cost of testing shoots up compared to manual testing.

The focus needs to shift to achieving the business requirements rather than focusing on the technical outcome. Testability needs to be built into an application right at the design stage but it is not always followed. This requires introducing automation tools that are easy to use by for any Manual Testers or Business Analysts with small learning curve.

This is achieved by introducing script-free automation. To enhance the ease of automation, with high flexibility to changes in terms of requirement and processes in testing and provide extensive automation coverage in short span. Script-free automation constitutes of an IDE to work with dropdowns, containing reusable function or excel kind of user interface rather than learning a programming language to script. Features, such as data driven, keyword driven and modularity, which come with any other automation tools must be available. Client-Server based design where automation once



created is readily available for others within the team and to achieve a parallel execution. Record and Play feature to capture the entire flow as well as debug from any point within the script. Test Management needs such as designing the test suites, configuring test environments, select test suites and generate self-explanatory test results that range from test steps to consolidated summary reports all on a single IDE.



Hence script-free automation is the potential next-generation for automation testing as the automation coverage is much higher compared to script-based automation. It leads to rapid creation of automation and in turn there is a big leap in productivity. Two tools having these features – Verifaya is a 100% "script-free", simple and powerful test automation platform, which enables testers and business users to rapidly automate native, hybrid & browser apps for desktops. Mphasis Services Testing Framework (MSTF), built in-house, gives extensive support for testing web services having a completely Script-less Framework Engine.

Script-free automation brings in ease of use. This in turn makes adoption of the tool much easier for any manual tester and benefits the overall process in the organization.

About the Author



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Menaka is a member of the Testing Center of Excellence (CoE) in Mphasis, experienced in business development, test automation, specialized in mobile application automation and research & development of frameworks for various test automation tools.

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