

2014 Awards of Excellence Nominee



Neil Suryanarayana, Physicians Mutual Insurance
Automation of repetitive testing speeds time-to-market, slashes IT effort

Application Lifecycle Management

High-level overview: Using HP, Physicians Mutual has realized the following benefits:

- Approximately 85% effort savings across projects, through efficient use of IT staff time
- Faster time-to-market for software delivery
- Improved test coverage
- On-demand feedback on the build
- Increased staff motivation

Company: Physicians Mutual Insurance Company and Physicians Life Insurance Company are members of the Physicians Mutual family. Physicians Mutual offers reliable Medicare Supplement, dental and supplemental healthcare insurance. Physicians Life Insurance provides life insurance coverage and annuities. In 2012, they entered the funeral pre-planning market to help meet the growing needs of funeral home owners and the families they serve. The companies have more than \$3 billion in assets. Founded in 1902, Physicians Mutual is headquartered in Omaha, Nebraska.

Contact: Neil Suryanarayana is Test Manager, Test Practice Leader for Physicians Mutual.

Business goals: Physicians Mutual aimed to automate repetitive software testing and thus accelerate the feedback process in order to bring testing to the forefront in its Agile software development methodology.

HP Software products implemented: HP Unified Functional Testing (UFT) 12. HP Quality Center (QC) 11.0, component of HP

Application Lifecycle Management (ALM). The solution provides out of the box integration with Test Management tools, preventing the need to rely on custom coding services. Its Protocol/Technology support/In-house tool integration meets Physicians Mutual business needs. The On-Premise hosted model suited the organization with a combination of seat and concurrent license types for QC and UFT for the team. HP has made a radical change with QTP in the form of Unified Functional Testing (11.50) providing a common IDE for GUI & API tests. The automation experts on the Physicians Mutual team have inherited this idea, and to make the best use of this IDE, have engineered a framework that will allow the teams to invoke GUI components, API components, Mainframe (legacy apps) all with in the same test script/case flow. This automation engine is integrated with its internal project management tool, and furthermore the team plans to tie this harness into the Continuous Testing model for Continuous Integration.

Benefits: Faster time-to-market for software delivery; efficient use of time at hand; elevated Test Coverage; on-demand feedback on the build; motivated staff; easier to find career testers proficient with the tools. Physicians Mutual has achieved approximately 85% effort savings across projects.

Additional details: This model was presented at the Vivit HP Software users group Northeast chapter meeting and was received well by other user groups within town using the HP technology stack. Suryanarayana is also a leader for this part of Vivit's chapter.



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