



Scottish Testing Specialist Group

Glasgow Event

The Scottish Testing Group is pleased to confirm the details for the Glasgow Event in November:

24th November 2009

1:00-5:00pm

***The Teacher Building,
St Enoch Square, Glasgow***

Keynotes:

Agile - Delight your business, increase your job satisfaction & maximise your potential - *John Isgrove – Collaborative Consulting*

In the current economic climate it is more important than ever that organisations are agile; ensuring they work efficiently, maximising existing resources, getting more value from less. An agile approach enables organisations to adapt to every changing circumstance and quickly grasp opportunities when they are presented, delivering faster return on investment. The benefits of an effective proven enterprise scale agile approach are much more than this though

Pairwise Testing Explained - Reducing test combinations using Pairwise Techniques - *Stephen Allott – Electromind*

Testers are currently swamped by the day to day pressures of having to do so much testing in so little time. Surely this will get worse as business pressures intensify, application complexity increases and technology marches endlessly on. In the future, there will never be enough people or time to test everything you would like to test; therefore testers must start now to implement techniques that reduce the number of test cases required.

To register for this event please contact Shaun Gauld or one of the Scottish Testing Group Committee – www.scottest.org.uk

The Glasgow event has been kindly sponsored by:



Further details on the Scottish Testing Group:

- Past Events
- Contacts
- BCS Membership

can be found at:
www.scottest.org.uk/



Scottish Testing Specialist Group

Agile - Delight your business, increase your job satisfaction & maximise your potential

*John Isgrove MBCS CITP
Collaborative Consulting*

Abstract

In the current economic climate it is more important than ever that organisations are agile; ensuring they work efficiently, maximising existing resources, getting more value from less. An agile approach enables organisations to adapt to every changing circumstance and quickly grasp opportunities when they are presented, delivering faster return on investment. The benefits of an effective proven enterprise scale agile approach are much more than this though.

Agile project delivery is something many organisations have heard about. Many have considered it but are not quite sure what is involved, others concerned about various stories they may have heard on the grapevine. During the presentation John Isgrove will review and address the various myths and typical concerns around an agile project delivery approach.

Through a case study he will then explore how an agile approach enables faster return on investments by consistently delivering on time fit-for-purpose solutions that always meet the organisation's requirements. John will develop your knowledge and understanding of a proven business focused agile framework that embraces an organisation's business and IT functions and is tailored to an organisation or project. We will explore the impact to software testing during an agile project. We will learn how the framework provides processes and practices that encourage collaboration and innovation, which in turn helps to maximise project team members' potential, increase their business domain knowledge and their resulting value to the organisation. We will also cover how a major hurdle in many organisations, the gap between business and IT functions is removed whilst at the same time the recognition and value of cross-functional team members and their job satisfaction is significantly increased.

Following the presentation John would hope you are as energised, excited and confident as he is about the benefits an agile project delivery approach can bring to an organisation.

Biography

John is a Member of the British Computer Society and Chartered IT Professional. He has worked in the IT services industry for over 24 years encompassing roles in software development, IT service management and consultancy. John has successfully held programming, testing, systems analysis and project management roles. For many years lead development teams and projects in the delivery of bespoke and packaged software solutions for corporate, public sector and SME clients. During the last 15 years John has been focused on managing and leading teams & projects, implementing and improving processes and driving commercial success for consultancy teams. Recently as Head of Software Development division for a large software house within the Insurance industry, John was responsible for introducing significant cultural, organisational and process change, whilst successfully delivering the largest and most complex programme of new strategic product development projects in the company's history.

John became involved in agile project delivery and development practices in the mid-90s when rapid application development (RAD) and joint application development (JAD) were the typical approaches. Since then John has developed his knowledge and become an accredited agile practitioner, successfully implementing proven agile delivery practices. John takes a pragmatic business focused approach that is appropriate for the organisation. This has included taking an evolutionary agile approach to waterfall development and also introducing a complete enterprise scalable agile framework. John is passionate about agile and the benefits it can bring to organisations and their people. This is why he setup Collaborative Consulting, working with a very experienced team to help organisations become more agile. He has seen an agile approach reduce delivery time by $\frac{2}{3}$ ^{ths} whilst at the same time increasing quality. An area that John finds very rewarding is seeing significant improvements to the collaboration, motivation and contribution of cross-functional project team members.



Scottish Testing Specialist Group

Pairwise Testing Explained - Reducing test combinations using Pairwise Techniques

*Stephen Allott
Electromind*

Abstract

Testers are currently swamped by the day to day pressures of having to do so much testing in so little time. Surely this will get worse as business pressures intensify, application complexity increases and technology marches endlessly on. In the future, there will never be enough people or time to test everything you would like to test; therefore testers must start now to implement techniques that reduce the number of test cases required.

This presentation is aimed at people familiar with the basic test case design techniques who would like to learn two different approaches to Pairwise testing, Orthogonal Arrays and the **all pairs** algorithm. Instead of testing all the combinations for all the values for all the variables, the Pairwise techniques require that you be more selective and test just **all pairs** of variables.

Since Pairwise techniques create significantly fewer tests, test execution time is reduced and achieving 100% **all pairs** coverage gives management confidence in the testing that has been done. If you later decide to automate your tests, you have fewer scripts to develop, maintain and manage.

Pairwise is not a magic solution but it does help improve communication between the stakeholders in a project. Pairwise may miss some combinations that you or other stakeholders may feel are important. However, the beauty of using these techniques is that having created a reduced test set the team can then engage with other stakeholders to explore any additional testing that may be required, due to specific **risks** being identified with a particular business function, for example.

Pairwise techniques can be implemented using commercially available or open source tools; these techniques are a useful addition to the test team and will compliment your existing techniques and test approaches.

Key points

1. You will learn how to design tests using the Pairwise technique called Orthogonal Arrays and why the all pairs algorithm is an improvement on this technique
2. You will learn how these techniques can be used to help the test team engage with the business to design additional tests to address important risky areas
3. You will learn why effective test case and test data design is an important prerequisite to automated test execution

Biography

Stephen Allott has over 30 years experience in software development, project management and testing and was recently awarded Chartered IT Professional Fellowship of the BCS.

He's worked for UK and US financial services organisations, telecommunications companies and a software house. Since 1995 he specialised in software testing and founded his own consulting & training company, ElectroMind, in 2002. Steve has recently provided strategic test consultancy and test process improvement health checks for several well known organisations in the mobile telecommunications, travel, retail and recruitment sectors.

He is an advisor in the UK to Specialisterne, a Danish company that employs people with autism.

The Scottish Testing Group would like to thank the sponsors of the Glasgow Event - TEKsystems



TEKsystems - Quick Facts

Understand how TEKsystems is committed to serving you

Affiliation

TEKsystems is a division of Allegis Group

TEKsystems 2008 Revenue

\$2.7 Billion

Allegis Group 2008 Revenue

\$5.7 Billion

Office Locations

UK (Wokingham, Berks EU HQ)

- Birmingham
- Edinburgh
- London
- Manchester
- Wokingham

Ireland

Germany

Netherlands

USA (Hanover, Maryland U.S. HQ)

Canada

Our services:

- Staffing Services
- Team Services
- Global Services
- Workforce Management Services

Market Specialisation:

TEKsystems focuses nationally in the areas:

- Communications,
- Financial services
- Government/Public Sector
- Information Technology
- Media/Entertainment

Other Markets Served:

- Automotive
- Business Services/Consulting
- Chemical
- Construction
- Education
- Energy
- Healthcare/Medical
- Hospitality/Travel
- Insurance
- Legal
- Manufacturing
- Pharmaceutical/Biotechnology
- Retail
- Transportation/Distribution
- Utilities



It's all about people

TEKsystems® offers the market's finest talent specialising in applications, IT infrastructure and communications. We call these specialist consultants technical professionals because it highlights their expertise. Our reputation for finding the right technical professional for the job is backed by more than 20 years of experience and over 23,000 of our technical professionals on assignment every day, throughout our 90 offices in Europe, the U.S. and Canada.

Whether you're seeking specialist skills for peak times or simply want the cost efficiency and flexibility of technical professionals even during off-peak periods, TEKsystems can help you find the talent you need. Our placements succeed time and again because we pair a technical professional's character and ability with your specific needs. In fact, we have one of the industry's highest rehire ratios, with the majority of our technical professionals being rehired on another TEKsystems assignment. That's a record we have reason to be proud of.

Finding the best technical professional for you

TEKsystems maintains one of the most extensive networks of technical professionals in Europe, the U.S. and Canada. Our team is highly skilled at finding and maintaining relationships with the very best talent in the industry. In each local market, TEKsystems has built a "Virtual Bench" of technical professionals who are best in class in their chosen area of expertise.

A large number of the technical professionals on our Virtual Bench have successfully worked with TEKsystems on multiple previous assignments, leading to a tried, tested and trust based relationship. This in turn allows us to confidently match the right technical professional to the right role with the right customer.

But technical skills are only a part of our rigorous selection criteria. We take the time to seek out individuals who share our commitment to the work we do and the clients we serve. It's this combination of technical abilities and integrity that makes our technical professionals truly exceptional.

Richard Wilson

Business Development Manager

Tel: +44 (0)131 554 2345 // DD: +44 (0)131 561 7734 // Mobile: +44 (0)751 558 8578

TEKsystems® Suite 2.1, Great Michael House, 14 Links Place, Edinburgh, Lothian, EH6 7EZ, UK
www.teksystems.co.uk