

Ascert

AUTOMATED END-TO-END TESTING & CERTIFICATION

The Problem with Legacy Terminal Testing

The little known secret in many companies today is that they still have green screen applications to run their business. There isn't much talk about it. But, the fact is that green screen applications may be here to stay for quite some time.

Despite the desire to modernize their applications, what often is revealed is that the legacy systems still work really well. Typically, a cost/benefit analysis finds that the effort and capital investment to rewrite legacy code does not pay off.

One problem area that these companies deal with is the testing aspect of green screen applications. The most commonly used testing process is a huge hassle for most companies...because it is a manual process!

Usually, testing involves a screen-by-screen manual progression of data input until the entire process is completed. For some organizations, this could be 100's, or even 1000's of screens! When the process breaks down, the testing professional will go through an onerous process to discover where the bugs are.

This testing approach is:

- Costly
- Fraught with errors
- Time consuming

What's worse is that this testing process is as old as the code itself, and has been a problem for decades!

Many firms employ a screen capture application that they use to manually review data on the terminal screen. This is a poor solution and doesn't get them far. Too often, this approach is nothing more than a replacement for stacks of paper print-outs. They still have to go screen by screen to find the errors.

```
class MathHelper
{
    if (isPrepared && number < prepared)
    public static string BigNumbersSum(string n1, string n2)
    {
        return !preparedNumbers[number - 1];
        string[] numbers = new string[preparedNumbers.Length];
        int shortNumLength, longNumLength;

        InitBigNumbersSum(n1, n2, numbers, out shortNumLength, out longNumLength);
        return ComputeBigNumbersSum(numbers, shortNumLength, longNumLength);
    }

    if (number < 4)
        return true;

    private static void InitBigNumbersSum(string n1, string n2)
    {
        if (number > 2 && number % 2 == 0)
        {
            if (n1.Length > n2.Length)
            {
                return false;
            }
            numbers[0] = (uint)end = (uint)Math.Sqrt(number);
        }
    }
}
```

VTERM Automated Modern Terminal Testing

The Ascertain Solution

Are you ready for the good news? When it comes to realizing efficiencies from legacy systems, not all hope is lost. Ascertain, the leader in the testing of financial transaction systems, has developed and implemented an elegant solution for the modernization of screen terminal testing.

Ascertain's solution is VersaTest™ VTERM Terminal Simulator, an add-on module to VersaTest that automates the entire testing process. Built on 25 years of terminal screen testing experience, VTERM brings terminal testing into the modern day. Automatic test start/stop, auto screen capture replay, and auto error identification makes terminal screen testing, a once difficult testing task, a snap!



Listed below are the 5 most commonly asked questions companies have about implementing VersaTest VTERM to automate terminal screen testing:

1. How hard will it be to implement VTERM in my business?

Generally, it's very straight forward to get an initial capture/replay scenario created. One pass through the system automatically creates a set of test cases you can use immediately. You'll be able to modify code and test the results without having to do any extra set up, or configuration.

2. Is this technology expensive?

It's all relevant. What does it cost in lost time getting code changes implemented? How long does it take to document your results? What is the added time to find a user error? The answer to these questions will get you close to what the investment is worth to you. Automating testing of this type usually can create a very rapid return on investment.

3. How many ongoing qualified experts will I need to run this type of testing?

None! You only need 1 expert to do the initial capture/replay. Since VTERM technology automatically captures the input, anyone can run future tests.

4. How long does it take for us to be up and running with VTERM automated green screen testing?

The initial capture replay averages approximately 4 hours. Within one day your team is running automated tests.

5. What kind of training do I need beyond the initial start-up?

To raise the level of efficient use of VTERM, Ascertain will do a customized on-site training session with your team. Within 3-days they will be expert power users.

Simulation of ANY 6530 or 3270 Message

VTERM USES

What makes VersaTest VTERM so valuable is the simulation of any 6530 or 3270 terminal message. It doesn't matter what industry the applications serves, VTERM can create automation and significant efficiencies in the testing process.

Here are just a few examples of VTERM at work:

- **Wire transfer systems** – Accept, process and send fund transfers using various systems including Fed Wire, BESS and SWIFT
- **Brokerage Systems** – Place buy/sell and other stock related processing orders
- **Card Issuing Systems** – VisionPLUS

If your company has implemented Continuous Integration you'll love our third party plug-in's (e.g. Jenkins) allowing your terminal applications to be part of the process flow.

Would you like a risk free analysis and test drive of the VTERM system? Send us an email at info@ascert.com and an Ascert Associate will grant you access to the test system. Just put "Green Screen" in the subject line and we'll do the rest.

About Ascert

Ascertain is recognized as a leading provider of premier testing software solutions. Ascert was founded in 1992 to provide automated software testing solutions that help companies measure the performance, reliability and scalability of their mission-critical back-end servers and applications. With over 100 clients worldwide, Ascert's products and services are used at some of the world's most successful companies.



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