

# User Profile: SYSTEM-TESTING IN AN AGILE DEVELOPMENT ENVIRONMENT

For the past 25 years, Ascert has specialized in testing software and services primarily in the payments industry. Ascert has built a best-in-class automated software testing solution for over 100 high-performance clients and recently had the opportunity to profile one of mainland Europe's top tier financial institutions.



# Client's use of Ascert's VersaTest product

This top 50 global bank has been utilizing Ascert testing solutions for nearly 15 years. Over this time, Ascert has been involved in the development and deployment of several custom drivers for their systems group. The bank was one of the first users of Ascert's Driver Development Kit. As a result of Ascert's on-site training courses, they quickly on-boarded this product feature and have used it to create several drivers on their own.

Over the past five years, this client has migrated from a waterfall development process to a fully integrated agile development shop. Key benefits of this move are a shortened development cycle and a complete team approach to development. They have full ownership of the entire product lifecycle from design and development to testing and long-term support.

#### User comments

Ascert had the opportunity to have a one-on-one interview with this customer to discuss how they have been using Ascert's VersaTest product. We asked the following questions and want to share their responses.

# "... Ascert built an interface from VersaTest Automator into Jenkins."

## How has VersaTest supported your agile development environment?

"To support a continuous delivery pipeline, we have utilized Jenkins continuous integration software to automate the development process. Ascert built an interface from VersaTest Automator into Jenkins. This has been instrumental in allowing us to perform functional, regression, and performance testing during the team build. "

"Testing must be invoked during the process. The days of building a product and sending it over the wall to a QA department has long been replaced. When we deploy new code, it is important that the testing is done right so we don't get calls in the middle of the night."

# How do you like the performance testing features of VersaTest?

"During holiday peaks, we can process over 8 million transactions. Stress testing is critical to ensure that we maintain a high-performance environment. A key feature of VersaTest is its ability to do functional, regression, and stress testing within the same product. This saves us a great deal of testing time."

## Has VersaTest's regression testing been helpful in your testing environment?

"Yes, our development 'sprint cycles' last for three weeks and we utilize VersaTest's automatic regression testing with great success. This capability is a very important part of the process allowing us to meet those aggressive timelines with quality code."

#### How would you rate Ascert's support?

"Ascert's support team is outstanding. You can send an email or make a call and get an immediate reply. No wasted time logging a problem and waiting a day or two for an answer. In this industry, we hear the word 'partner' a lot, but in this case, it is accurate. For example, once they knew we were using the Jenkins product within our shop to automate development, Ascert was quick to create an interface between the two systems to streamline testing."

#### Any additional comments?

"Clearly, the bank is very committed to the agile development process. In fact, it would be hard to imagine ever going back to a more traditional development model since the benefits of this team approach have proven to be so valuable. As the process evolves into a continuous delivery approach, it will be vital to have software partners like Ascert who understand the demands of our environment. Ascert and their testing technology are key contributors to our success."

# Summary: Product flexibility addresses a changing market

Many of Ascert's global clients are shifting their internal development processes to a more agile model. Market demands require a more constant flow of enhancements and new releases. The flexibility of VersaTest's suite of testing products enables our customer base to stay ahead of this demanding change.

#### About Ascert

Ascert 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.

Off-the-shelf simulators include solutions for EFT testing, POS testing, stress testing, ATM testing, Fraud testing, IFX testing, EMV/chip card testing, ISO8583 testing and 3270 & 6530 terminal testing. Ascert's custom simulators have been used for testing air traffic control systems and biometric payment systems. Ascert delivers flexible solutions that are either customer site installed or accessed via Ascert's remote testing service platform, Ascertified.com. Ascert's products assist testing professionals across industry segments to better manage their testing processes and environments through an end-to-end tool set.

# Advantages of VersaTest Automator

True automation of testing results in huge benefits. Test runs that previously took days or even weeks to execute can be completed in a matter of hours providing significant return on investment through time savings alone.

- No scripting required, enables use by a wide range of personnel
- Enables frequent regression and performance testing with more confidence in results
- High level pass/fail management view of testing with drill-down for detailed analysis
- Integrates with 3rd party products like Jenkins and HP Quality Center



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