

# Proof of the qualification will be even more important



*What will be the daily practice of testers in future?*

“To answer this question, we need to look at what is happening in the market today. The trend we have been seeing over the last years is that ‘the Business’ and ‘IT’ have

been moving closer and closer to each other. We also see that time to market has become ever more important, making the way we work faster and more responsive to the market’s needs. Roles have been changing and as we see that busi-

nesses have become fully dependant on IT, we realise that the need to be responsive and alert has become the way to survival. Companies failing will find themselves left behind and out of business.

“Looking at the role of the tester and their daily practice, we can definitely state that testing has always been and still is very important. We do also see that changes are taking place with more and more companies implementing Agile, Scrum and DevOps practices (methodologies). They are meeting the challenge to respond quicker to market needs, and thus to accelerate the delivery of their products and/or service.

“The daily practice of future testers will be much more dynamic and requires much more flexibility and interaction. On the one hand the future testers will need a broader skill-set that enables them to be part of interdisciplinary teams. On the other hand it is a necessity that they have one specialisation with a profound expertise. It assures the quality level. The so called ‘T-Shape Tester’ is able to work across multiple disciplines in his work environment. He is involved at several stages of the product life-cycle. Talking about the digitization and automation in all areas of life the emphasis is on quality assurance and security and so the role of qualified testers will become even more relevant.”

*What would you advise testers to do to be prepared for that future?*

“Globalisation, digitization, automation, internet of things, digital

transformation are the topics that describe only a fraction of the actual developments in the IT-world. The tester will need to be prepared to serve the needs of the business by participating in multifunctional teams. This means that the tester needs to prepare for a world in which he or she needs to know and understand the tasks and responsibilities of his fellow team members, working in Agile Scrum teams aimed at serving the business' needs. We also see that the non-testers in these teams need to have an understanding of the tester's role and responsibilities.

"In times of change the independent proof of the qualification will be even more important as it grants transparency and assures that globally interacting teams do work along the same standards. iSQI's portfolio of professional certification can help (not only) testers to get ahead in their current role and also support their career progression.

"Thanks to the cooperation with established Boards like for example ISTQB® and an international network of training providers, iSQI is able to guarantee that its certification schemes are always up to date, industry demanded, independent. We can offer a holistic solution on further qualification. The iSQI product portfolio intertwines and delivers opportunities for all levels of expertise whether you are already on an expert level or you are starting your career. Furthermore, we have multiple delivery channels to take the exam so we make sure every-

body can choose the solution that fits best."

#### *What should testers learn?*

"First of all lifelong-learning is a given. It is important for everyone to never stop learning. iSQI has recognised the developments in the market and has acted on this already. In the aim to constantly enable our partners to serve the community, we extended the certification portfolio by entering new partnerships and adding new programs. Based upon the market developments described earlier, we see increasing demand for qualification and certification schemes like DevOps, Agile, Scrum, Mobile and others. Because of these market developments iSQI has entered cooperation with Boards to enable us to offer qualifications relevant to the needs of our partners and their customers. Through cooperation with the DevOps Agile Skills Association (DASA) we can offer a

full DevOps certification scheme. Our cooperation with other boards enable the delivery of programs such as Certified Agile Tester, Scrum Master Pro, Certified Mobile App Tester and many others. It is iSQI's aim to constantly monitor the developments in the commercial market and offer certification programs that enable the professionals working in those markets to keep their skills up to date and serve the need of the businesses they operate in." □

Stephan Goericke is the Managing Director of the International Software Quality Institute (iSQI GmbH), a leading provider of certification examinations all over the world.

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