Oracle Communications Consulting (OCC) powers up Automated Test Suite

Manual testing has classically come at a high cost of resources to run and maintain, is time-consuming, lacks proper coverage and is error-prone due to repetitiveness. This has led to the introduction and attractiveness of automating these tests. Automation testing is used to improve the execution speed of verification, checks or any other repeatable tasks in the software development, integration and deployment lifecycle.

The return on investment between manual versus automated testing has been a balancing act. Historically, automated testing has required investment in tools costs, setup of test cases, and then the maintenance/updating of those tools & test cases.

Today’s Service Providers need a test automation tool that improves their time-to-market, reduces costs, extends their testing scope, and in turn, increases their quality and their customers’ experience. In addition, they need to roll out new software versions and new platforms quickly, test configuration changes, and expand/grow their networks all while maintaining core network resiliency and high-availability as they roll out new service plans. According to a recent survey by GitLab with over 3,600 respondents from 21 countries, 47% claim testing is their number one reason for delays, 74% have shifted testing earlier in the deployment process, 35% claim they are half-way there to implementing automated testing and only 12% have implemented full test automation.

The Oracle Communication Automated Testing Suite (ATS) is a software that is used on the system under test to check if the system is functioning as expected and provides end-to-end and regression testing of 4G & 5G scenarios, including interworking test cases and Network Function (NF) emulation. This Jenkins-based open-source automation server is flexible enough that the user can create additional test cases using the APIs provided by the framework to automate all manner of tasks related to building, testing, delivering or deploying software.

ORACLE COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTING ACTIVATES OC-ATS

Leveraging decades of experience in core network solutions deployment and testing, depth knowledge of telco and IT protocols and call flows, our consultants are equipped and ready to customize and expand the capabilities of your OC-ATC for automated functional testing, regression testing, load testing and test process management. Building on the included test cases in the suite and developed custom testing accelerators, OCC works with our customers to develop bespoke test cases and reports specific to your network and business needs.
CI/CD PIPELINE METHODOLOGY
Recognizing that each customer’s network and needs are different, OCC designs different CD Pipelines specific to these needs. For example, in the case of a new software release, ATS use case tests are deployed automatically against the new software.

ORACLE COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTING EXTENDS THE FUNCTIONALITY AND CAPABILITIES OF YOUR OC-ATS
As your network traffic evolves, so must your OC-ATS test cases and reports. It is important that OC-ATS undergoes regular test cases reviews and that adjustments are made or new use cases tests are developed. In today’s virtualized and cloud native environments, where 4G/5G applications are no longer deployed on proprietary hardware, changes in underlying environments can happen, and often outside the control of Service Providers. It is of critical importance that regression testing is powerful, is customized to your needs and delivers meaningful reports and data. The ability to quickly deploy these new test cases is especially critical for interworking and policy rule case additions which can be done expeditiously, run daily and include subscriber/subscription lifecycle.

These OC-ATS extensions include, but are not limited to: end-to-end use cases, customer ad-hoc use cases, enhanced use case validation, a test scheduler and reports, and a test creation user interface. In addition, OCC can enhance OC-ATS with additional capabilities, such as network topology, NF simulators, chaos testing, hybrid/public cloud hosting and integration with customer toolchain.

TRUST THE EXPERTS
OCC possess both the intimate knowledge of the elements under test in your 4G/5G network and the ATS framework to quickly design and develop the test cases and reports your company needs to continually check and ensure your solution is running smoothly and optimally with the minimum use of your resources. In today’s Cloud environments, it is necessary to continually check the integrity and health of the entire end-to-end solution and alert to any issues network or elemental changes have introduced. This is only possible with continual automated testing which has been powered by Oracle Communications Consulting.

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