

Managing Test Execution Course Outline

General Description

Planning, test development, and early involvement in the software lifecycle are important, but at some point the tests must be run. Rex Black will cover the essential tools, important techniques, critical processes, and fundamental management skills for people involved in leading or managing test execution phases. This period of time poses unique challenges for test managers and lead test engineers. Rex will describe some of the challenges that the test manager will encounter and propose solutions.

This material is drawn from Rex's best-selling first book, *Managing the Testing Process, 2e*, his new book, *Critical Testing Processes*, and over two decades of software, hardware, and systems experience.

Learning Objectives

Through presentation, discussion, and hands-on exercises, attendees will learn to:

- Understand the key challenges of test execution.
- Assign test cases and track test execution.
- Write accurate, concise, influential bug reports.
- Ensure timely and consistent arrival of test releases.
- Present status to peer and senior level managers.

Course Materials

This course includes the following materials:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Description</i>
Course Outline	A general description of the course along with learning objectives, course materials and an outline of the course topics, including approximate timings for each section.
Noteset	A set of approximately 150 PowerPoint slides covering the topics to be addressed.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Description</i>
Bibliography and resources	A set of further readings, Web sites, tools and other resources to help implement the concepts.

The printed course materials are provided in a binder in a way which makes it convenient for course attendees to remove portions as needed for reference; e.g., during exercises.

Session Plan

Introduction and overview

Challenges of test execution

- Certainty versus progress
- Collaborative processes
- Result misinterpretation
- Holidays and cultures

The test release process

- Process checklist
- Ownership of the process
- Process flow
- Improving your process

The test execution process

- Process checklist
- Test tracking
- Improving your process

Case study: applying test case tracking

The bug reporting process

- Process checklist
- Ten steps to a good bug report
- Bug lifecycles
- Bug classification
- Improving your process

Exercise: bug reporting

The results presentation process

- Process checklist
- A testing dashboard
- Personal factors
- Improving your process

Exercise: dashboards, scenarios

The change management process

- Process checklist
- Change control boards
- Improving your process

Case study: Internet appliance CCB

Case study: one week of test execution

Bibliography and resources

Recommended Readings

The class materials include an extensive bibliography of books related to software testing, project management, quality, and other topics of interest to the test professional.