

WHY INVEST IN
**TEST
AUTOMATION**



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WHY INVEST IN TEST AUTOMATION

As CEO of Kornerstone, I witness a constant struggle firsthand – the pressure to prioritize rapid time-to-market over the crucial element of application quality. It happens across companies of all sizes, regardless of their investments. It's disheartening to see promising transformation projects fall short of their full potential due to inefficient and unplanned execution, especially when the culprit is often inadequate software testing.

Changing business requirements and customizations in SAP systems makes it complex. Testing is crucial for development and maintenance of SAP.

A lot of companies are performing manual testing and though it helps, it takes longer time putting the security of business critical SAP processes at high risk. To overcome these challenges, companies are increasingly adopting automated testing.

But again, not all test automation solutions are easy to use. Some are complex while other are resource intensive, finding the right solution is challenging if not impossible.

In this White Paper we will walk you through what you should be testing in SAP, the pitfalls to avoid when using automation, and the benefits of maintainable and scalable automation.



**Laxmikant N
Deshmukh**

Founder



> ABOUT KORNERSTONE

Kornerstone is a boutique consultancy at the forefront of Application Lifecycle Management (ALM) and Robotic Process Automation (RPA) solutions tailored for SAP and Salesforce ecosystems.

We combine deep expertise in enterprise technologies with a passion for innovation to empower organizations to optimize their digital operations and achieve transformative outcomes.

PARTNERED WITH



Kornerstone Clients



➤ **Test Automation best practices to Optimize your SAP Systems**

We all know that SAP systems are often customised to suit business requirements. Also, integrations with other non-SAP systems like CRM solutions, Supply chain solutions, e-commerce platforms and others.

Because of these integrations, the possibility of something breaking is high. To ensure that these processes within SAP are intact and integrations works seamless, testing is carried out continuously so that the SAP system is secure and bug free!



Increased Efficiency and Speed-resulting in faster time to market



Enhanced Test Coverage-for a comprehensive testing experience



Improved Accuracy-providing reliable test results



Early Defect Detection for quick fixes contributes to overall time and cost reduction



Improved Scalability to accommodate large codebases and cater to the growing needs of organizations

➤ KEY CHALLENGES IN TEST AUTOMATION



NOW, WHY DO WE TEST SAP?

SAP is the company's system of records and they are highly reliant on it to run critical business processes, integrations, customizations and updates seamlessly.

WHAT DO WE TEST IN SAP?



- SAP system interfaces with many other systems which makes it vulnerable to errors. Companies should prioritise high-impact areas like-
-
- **Critical Business Processes:** Core functionalities like financial transactions, inventory management, and human resource processes should be tested. Disruptions in these areas can significantly impact your business.
-
- **Frequently Changed Functionalities:** Regularly updated functionalities are prone to regressions. Automating tests for these areas ensures they continue to work as expected after changes.
-
- **High-Risk Areas:** Identify processes with a high potential for errors or security vulnerabilities. Automated testing can help catch these issues early and prevent costly consequences.

Tools like Livecompare from Tricentis can guide exactly what needs to be tested before changes are deployed to production.

- Avoid over-testing, cutting unnecessary time and complexity from your SAP testing
- Prevent under-testing, catching defects before they damage your system and reputation
- Deliver higher-quality releases with zero defects

➤ KEY CHALLENGES IN TEST AUTOMATION



INTEGRATION CHALLENGES

- **Compatibility Issues:** Ensuring seamless integration between automation frameworks, testing tools, and development environments can be complex.
- **Data Management:** Supplying test automation scripts with the necessary test data consistently and reliably can be a challenge, especially for large-scale applications.



RELIANCE ON QUALITY CODE

- **Garbage In, Garbage Out:** The quality of automated tests heavily relies on the quality of the code used to create them. Poorly written test scripts can lead to unreliable or misleading results.



ORGANIZATIONAL RESISTANCE

- **Shifting Mindsets:** Transitioning from manual testing to a more automated approach might require overcoming resistance from team members who are accustomed to traditional testing methods.
- **Lack of Management Buy-In:** Securing management support for the initial investment and ongoing maintenance of test automation initiatives is crucial for long-term success.

➤ HOW DO WE NAVIGATE THROUGH THESE CHALLENGES?

To overcome these challenges it is important to thoroughly consider your automation project needs, tools, skills, and other requirements. Here is a quick list of considerations.

1. PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

- What types of applications will you be testing? (Web, mobile, desktop)
- What testing methodologies will you be using? (Functional, non-functional, API)
- What level of test automation coverage do you need?

3. TEAM SKILLS AND RESOURCES

- Does your team have experience with automation testing tools?
- What is your team's budget for a testing tool?
- How much time can your team dedicate to learning and maintaining the tool?

2. CHOOSING THE RIGHT TEST AUTOMATION TOOLS

- **Open-source tools (free):** Selenium, Cypress.io, Appium
- **Commercial tools (paid):** UFT (Unified Functional Testing) by Micro Focus, Katalon Studio, TestComplete

Define your project requirements and team capabilities.

4. TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Does the tool integrate with your existing CI/CD pipeline?
- Does the tool support the programming languages your team uses?
- Does the tool offer robust reporting and analytics capabilities?

➤ IMPLEMENTING TEST AUTOMATION: STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH!

1

Define Your Needs: Identify your project requirements, team capabilities, and desired outcomes from automation.

2

Research and Evaluate Tools: Research and shortlist test automation tools based on your needs and criteria. Consider conducting proof-of-concept trials with some shortlisted options.

3

Develop Your Automation Strategy: Plan your automation approach, including test cases to be automated, scripting languages to be used, and integration with your development workflow.

4

Implement and Execute Automation: Develop and implement your automated tests, integrating them into your Continuous Integration/ Continuous Deployment (CI/CD).

5

Maintain and Refine: Regularly maintain and refine your automated tests as your application evolves and new features are added.

Investing in test automation is a strategic decision that can significantly enhance your software development lifecycle. By streamlining testing processes, improving software quality, and reducing costs, test automation offers a compelling return on investment. By carefully considering your needs, choosing the right tool, and following a structured approach, you can successfully implement test automation and reap its numerous benefits.

➤ THE KORNERSTONE ADVANTAGE


Implementing test automation is not an easy feat. However working with an expert can provide the right expertise, skills, and best practices for a successful Implementation.

At Kornerstone we bring a wealth of knowledge and experience in various test automation frameworks, tools, and methodologies. We can guide your team in selecting the right approach and scripting languages for your project.

Our team of experts will ensure your automation practices adhere to industry best practices, promoting efficient test script development, maintainability, and scalability. While doing this, we can provide training and knowledge transfer sessions to equip your team with the skills and expertise necessary to develop, maintain, and execute automated tests effectively.

Our consultants can help you optimize your overall testing process by integrating automation seamlessly into your development lifecycle. With Continuous improvement and ongoing support we help you adapt your automation strategy to changing business needs.

What makes us the most desired partners

-  **Cost-Effectiveness:** By optimizing testing processes and reducing manual testing effort, we help you achieve significant cost savings in the long run.
-  **Improved Resource Allocation:** By freeing up testers' time from repetitive tasks, we can empower them to focus on higher-level testing activities that require human judgment and expertise.
-  **Faster Time to Market:** The efficiency gained from automation can lead to faster release cycles and quicker time to market for your software.

Kornerstone can be a valuable partner in your journey toward successful test automation implementation. Their expertise, strategic guidance, and support can help you achieve the benefits of automation while mitigating risks and ensuring a smooth transition from manual to automated testing.



 www.kornerstonein.com

 Info@kornerstonein.com

 +91-9168 925 925

 WeWork ElevenWest, Baner,
Pune - 411045

Contact Us

