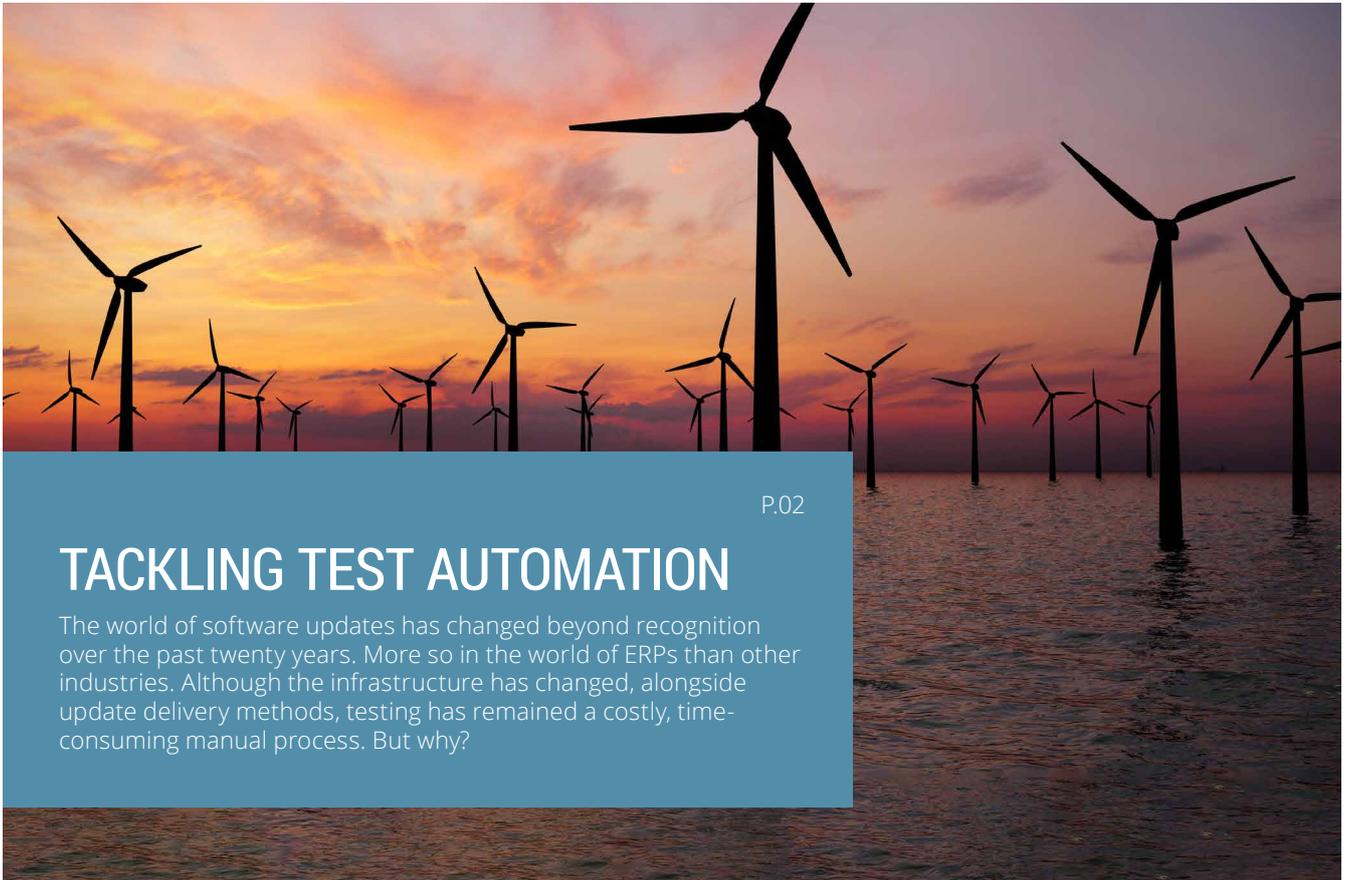# DIMENSION

From DWS

ISSUE # 12

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P.02

TACKLING TEST AUTOMATION

The world of software updates has changed beyond recognition over the past twenty years. More so in the world of ERPs than other industries. Although the infrastructure has changed, alongside update delivery methods, testing has remained a costly, time-consuming manual process. But why?

P.03

DIMENSION SWIFTEST USE CASES

As Oracle now releases an update every quarter, you have to constantly read into what features are new, and how these changes will affect your system. Implementing test automation can take the stress out of this ongoing process. Our eBook outlines our test automation solution: SwifTest.

P.03

NEW FEATURES IN DIMENSION SWIFTEST

Over time your test script library will grow, system requirements will change, and will necessitate further changes to your existing scripts. SwifTest gives you a powerful set of tools to automate and monitor testing for Oracle JD Edwards or Fusion Cloud Applications, and we've just implemented some new features.

P.04

REALIZING CONTINUOUS INNOVATION TO DELIVER CONSISTENT VALUE

In recent years, we have seen a paradigm shift in the way organisations upgrade and update their ERP software. Gone are the days of major upgrade projects. In order to truly take advantage of continuous delivery with smaller regular updates, the onus has been placed on the customer. Or has it?

P.05

HOW WE PROTECT OUR BUSINESS-CRITICAL DATA

We take security very seriously at DWS, certified to ISO27001 standard, the security of our customer data is a top priority for us. To make sure that we know our systems are secure, we undertook a penetration test, a process known as 'ethical hacking', to find out how we would fare in the event of a cyber-attack.

THE ENDURING VALUE OF FUNCTIONAL TESTING

The world of software updates has changed beyond recognition over the past twenty years. Nowhere is this more evident than in the area of ERP software. We have seen a move from siloed on-premises deployments to agile cloud infrastructure. At the same time, we have seen vendors eschewing large, infrequent upgrades in favor of programs of continuous innovation and adoption.

Although the infrastructure that supports enterprise applications has changed, alongside the method of delivering updates, one thing that hasn't is the need to test your software before releasing it into the wild. The time and effort associated with functional testing is still frequently underestimated. Even in a world of instantly enabled cloud updates, you can't just push code changes into production.

Testing has traditionally been a costly and time-consuming process. Justifiably so, as the cost and time to remediate would be significantly higher if a defect made its way into production. With the software update process becoming less burdensome, testing can now account for the larger part of a project.

With this in mind, ERP uses should be looking to test automation to introduce greater efficiency and accuracy. Saving time and money on the functional testing of software updates can help accelerate time to value on new features, reduce the risk of manual error, provide access to detailed business intelligence, and improve the quality, resilience and repeatability of your testing.

Across the enterprise software landscape, we are also beginning to see a small, but growing, skills gap. With more data, apps and workflows migrating to the cloud, in-house teams don't always include highly skilled coding resource, so super users and administrators need to shoulder a greater degree of the testing burden.

Not all test automation solutions are created equal

There is more than one way to test your software. However, some ways are more efficient and effective than others. A quick comparison of the solutions available in the market shows the usual mix of strengths and weaknesses. However, we're not here to talk about other solutions, we're here to talk about the solution that Oracle's own Upgrade Planning Methodology advises as the recommended partner tool for test automation: SwifTest.

The similarities between solutions don't generally make the headlines, it's the differences that count. So, what makes SwifTest unique?

First, SwifTest was built specifically for Oracle Cloud and JD Edwards applications. It is application aware, which means it changes as your app changes. Your tests remain relevant from one iteration to the next.

From the creation of test scripts and data to the execution, documentation and auditability of the tests themselves, every aspect of Swiftest is designed to save on the time and effort required to carry out testing. SwifTest demonstrates the gold standard for documentation, providing easy access to an auditable trail of test schedules and results.

The creation, editing and maintenance of scripts is both simple and intuitive. Point and click functionality means super users and administrators can take ownership of the testing process, there's no need for coding, scripting and technical resource. Powerful search and replace functionality makes editing of scripts more efficient.

The more you use SwifTest, the greater the value you get. Creating, storing, editing and executing tests becomes a virtuous circle as you have more tests in the repository to call on. Combine individual scripts to replicate complex end-to-end workflows with downstream dependencies to ensure no errors make it through to the production environment.

DIMENSION

DIMENSION SWIFTEST USE CASES

DWS can significantly reduce the time and effort associated with functional testing using Dimension SwifTest for Oracle Fusion Cloud Apps and JD Edwards EnterpriseOne.

As Oracle now delivers new updates every quarter, whether you're an end-customer or a systems integrator, you have to understand what's new, what features are delivered and what features you might want to turn on.

But whether you choose to enable anything or not, our experience tells us that you still need to test. Using a tool that is application-aware allows business analysts and super-users to organize, set up, modify and maintain test scripts with ease.

Savings of up to 60% can be realized during test execution, with further savings of 70% achievable during the creation and maintenance of test scripts.

We present a selection of Use Cases and ways to help you test smarter. **Read the full eBook.**

ANNOUNCING NEW FEATURES IN DIMENSION SWIFTEST

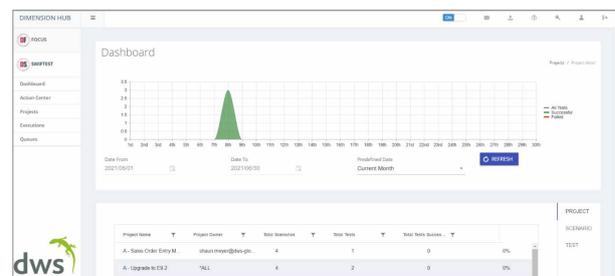## Similar Actions / Search and Replace

This feature may also be referred to as 'Search and Replace'. This functionality is now available in SwifTest, so if you want to understand how this works in more detail, click here to read the blog.

Update to the SwifTest Dashboard

In addition, we are announcing that changes to the SwifTest dashboard now allow the date range to be customizable. Previously the graph would display month-by month date ranges only, but selections can now be made using a specific date range to allow greater flexibility for the user.

Example of the new SwifTest Dashboard:

The DWS Dimension SwifTest application gives you a powerful set of tools to automate and monitor test scripts against Oracle JD Edwards or Fusion Cloud Applications.

Over time your test script library will grow, but also systems and requirements change, and as they do so will the need to makes changes to your existing scripts. For example, when you have a series of tests that all contain the same action and changes need to be made to that action across all, or some of, the tests.

REALIZING CONTINUOUS INNOVATION TO DELIVER CONSISTENT VALUE

n today's business environment, we have recently seen a sort of paradigm shift in how organizations upgrade their ERP software.

Gone are the major platform upgrade projects that were complex, costly in terms of both time and money, not to mention the disruption to everyday business.

While it was a necessity to periodically upgrade the software say every 3-5 years, ERP software makers such as Oracle JD Edwards quickly realized a change was due in how software updates were delivered. The future for Oracle JD Edwards' success and that of their client base was to provide smaller, more frequent updates that allow customers to gain rapid access to new features and functionality, without costly and time-consuming projects. Thus "Continuous Delivery" was born!

The good news for Oracle JD Edwards customers running JD Edwards EnterpriseOne Release 9.2 is that Oracle will continue to support and deliver valued updates via Enhanced Service Units (ESU's) regularly and the customer has control over which updates they take and when. With each and every change event project, customers can innovate, mitigate risk and provide increased value to their businesses.

However, in order to truly take advantage of continuous delivery, the onus is on the customer to take updates regularly. The simple formula: Continuous Delivery +

Continuous Adoption + Continuous Innovation = Continuous Value is what Oracle is envisioning for the JDE landscape. In fact, in an April 21, 2021 presentation entitled: "The Cumulative Value of JD Edwards 9.2 Applications", Keith Sholes of JD Edwards Product Management wrote:

"The value of an ERP is heavily dependent on the business/users perceived value of their existing solution. Perceived value increases with the adoption of new capabilities and innovation".

As organizations move towards truly embracing continuous innovation, it's a good idea to think about developing a process driven approach that reduces risk and business disruption while delivering accelerated value to the business. Here at DWS we talk about running smaller, faster and smarter projects to accomplish just that.

Check out our recent eBook on Continuous Innovation and discover how to make the most of Oracle's strategy of continuous delivery for JD Edwards EnterpriseOne or contact us for more information.

Whether you are looking at a one-off change event project or committing to an annual cadence of code-current change events, DWS has the expertise and resources to help you innovate and realize incremental value from your JDE 1 investment.

PENETRATION TESTING – HOW DWS IS PROTECTING OUR BUSINESS-CRITICAL DATA

Every day we seem to hear of a new cyber-attack or data breach; regular malicious attacks on company systems proving that as an organization you can never be complacent.

While traditional firewalls and security controls are an important layer of any IT security policy, they can't defend or warn against many other specific threats which can attack web applications.

We take security very seriously at DWS, certified to ISO27001 standard, the security of our customer data is a top priority for us. To make sure that we know our systems are secure, we undertook a penetration test, a process known as 'ethnical hacking' to find out how we would fare.

To do this we engaged the services of a highly respected third-party security provider to carry out penetration testing of our software and systems for our web application and API. This consisted of an attempt to breach our systems using tools and techniques commonly used in malicious attacks against our existing security defences.

Using a CREST approved penetration testing company gave us peace of mind that the tests undertaken would be carried out by certified experts. Each penetration test addressed business risks and the impact to confidentiality, integrity, and availability of data. It provided a good indication to DWS management and the technical teams on how to best prioritise, plan, budget and remediate any risks in a structured manner.

The summary of findings concluded that overall, the initial risk provided to DWS assets was 'Medium' but after retesting the current risk is 'Low'. Furthermore, no critical issues were discovered, and the overall security was deemed as 'Good'.

About DWS

Since 1998, we have been providing development and technical services to organizations looking to customize, integrate, extend, upgrade or support implementations of JD Edwards Enterprise One and Oracle Fusion Cloud Apps. We also sell EnterpriseOne testing products that leverage our deep domain expertise and help customers run smaller, faster and smarter projects.

DWS serves a global client base using proven methodologies and proprietary DWS Dimension™ tools. Our best-practice approach and eye for detail help us deliver products and services that save time and money and continually drive down your TCO for JD Edwards.

For further information please visit our website, or contact us:

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