

Implementing Effective Automation of Testing for Wireless Technologies

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Achieving ROI – Key questions

- How often do you conduct the specific task?
- How long does it take?
- What resources does it need? (people & equipment)
 - i.e. little value automating a task that is done once a month and takes a few hours
- Is there a resource constraint in the current task?
 - If so what is the critical path e.g. equipment hours
- What benefit will having a 24/7 capability bring?
 - i.e. What capacity do you/will you need?
 - Machine hours/annum are approximately 5 times man hours/annum
- What tasks do you specifically want to deskill?
 - Redeploy resources elsewhere
 - Give staff the ability to progress and develop rather than dealing with mundane tasks
 - Reduce the risk of not being able to do that task if someone is unwell
- What is the cost of achieving automation for a specific task?
 - It maybe to expensive so stick with the manual approach

What to avoid

- Solution Choice: - over complicated and very flexible solutions can make your automation program unsuccessful, remember your needs.
- A supplier that wants to work in a “*here it is*” approach
 - Our experience shows that all implementations are specific to the organisation and there needs to be engagement
- Non commercial software platforms
 - Think about longevity, open source can mean low cost of entry but could mean high cost of replacement if it is no longer maintained

Success Factors

Social	Tactical/Technical
Team and organisation buy-in for implementing automation	Keep coming back to the needs
Clear strategy for people who's roles will be effected by automation implementation	Be quick to intervene if it is not working
Keep spreading the messages about the benefits and needs for automation	Pick a solution that fits your needs, not fit your needs to a solution
Ensure all of the team have the opportunity to get involved in the process	Ensure there is time in the schedule to deal with implementation
	Good IT infrastructure

Pit Falls

- Changing the way people operate
 - Automation requires more structure to the approach , doing it quickly is difficult, but the benefits can be huge.....
- *“We do not have enough time to deal with automation.....”*
 - i.e. busy facilities can find it difficult, or it could just be politics
- Empire builders.....
- IT infrastructure
 - Ability to use remote access
 - LAN connectivity i.e. Everything should be connected to the LAN, but often cannot
- Device under test
 - Dealing with complex Form factors
 - Product stability i.e. Early R&D products could make automation difficult
 - USB driver available



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