

Client:

Legal & General

**Industry:**

Insurance

Project:

Automated Test Solution For A Large Oracle Data Warehouse Development

Project Duration:

5 Years

Infrastructure:

Operating Platform: UNIX (HP:UX)

Database: Oracle 9i

BI Application: Business Objects

ETL Tool: Ab Initio

Test Tools: QTP, Quality Centre

Sources: IBM Mainframe, IMS, DB2, SQL Server, External Data Feeds

CASE Tools: TOAD, MS Visio, Rational RequisitePro

The Requirement:

The project focused on the delivery of a Data Warehouse system (Datamart) designed to enhance the efficiency of reporting critical Management Information. Ab Initio used as the ETL (Extract/Transform/Load) tool for the management of data transformations between the source legacy systems and target system.

MagenTys were given responsibility for all testing related activities for the project after it had been running for almost a quarter of its total duration. Upon taking control, MagenTys was greeted with a total lack of consistency among testing streams, no visible test management, incorrect or non-present test requirements and a lack of testing and technical knowledge within the clients permanent staff designated to be a part of the testing team.

MagenTys offered a full managed testing service and provided consultants from Test Management level to Junior Test Analysts.

Testing Requirements:

- Improve testing quality, as the initial focus on testing had been poor
- Decrease testing time
- Ensure test incidents were found early
- Reduce post deployment defects
- Improve the use of constrained testing environments
- Build a re-usable test delivery process
- Provide training to permanent members of staff to ensure top-level skills

Testing Solution:

- Testing was split into areas based on the source of the data or the functional requirement of the system.
- A risk based testing strategy, with delivery risks analysed to prioritise testing
- Automated regression testing using a framework based upon Mercury's Quick Test Professional
- Implementation of manual test environment change control procedures
- A clear defect management process to manage test incidents
- A reusable standard test documentation procedure
- Agile methodology adopted.
- Business Analyst roles undertaken to bridge the gap between inadequate documentation and knowledge

Benefits:

- Improved release cycles through implementation of best practices – hence better control and visibility
- Quicker and more productive test iterations
- Reduction of post deployment defects through testing
- On demand resource management
- Re-usable automated regression test pack
- Effective test management through improved visibility and effective reporting