

MERCURY CHANGE IMPACT TESTING FOR SAP APPLICATIONS

Mercury Change Impact Testing™ enables you to continuously improve your applications quickly and effectively by focusing testing on SAP transactions and business processes impacted by changes at the right time, every time, so applications are released with the highest level of quality and at the lowest level of risk.

Once your SAP application is in production, there is a constant need to apply changes, such as SAP Hot Packs and incremental improvements requested by the lines of business (LOBs) and defects from the production system. While your business requires fast change cycle times, the risk of changes to the application needs to be mitigated as every change has an impact on the application and may negatively impact the business itself.

Typically customers do not know how a change impacts the SAP transactions and business processes defined in the applications. Therefore, most Quality Assurance (QA) groups test the complete application functionality, often manually and involving hundreds of manual testers, which causes slow change cycle times and high costs. If time is short, an alternative approach many QA teams apply today is to focus testing on the most critical business functionality, which leaves the remaining application functionality untested. As this functionality may have been impacted by changes, it leaves the application vulnerable to unexpected quality problems or even application outages, causing a high risk to the business. For example, if a hot pack is implemented and the business-critical SAP transactions are thoroughly tested but there is a change impact on a separate area such as BW reporting, this may cause the CEO dashboard to fail in production.

To address these challenges, QA organizations need a solution to help them understand:

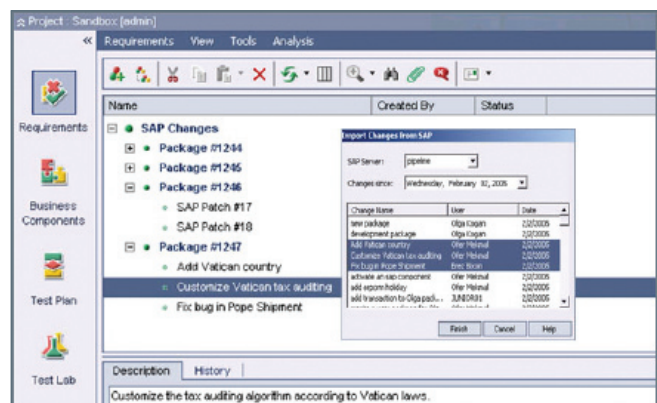
- The impact of changes to SAP transactions and SAP business processes.

- What SAP business processes to focus the testing effort on.
- The risk of changes.

REDUCE RISK, TEST CYCLE TIMES, AND COSTS

You can reduce risk, test cycle times, and costs with the industry's first top-down, business-process-focused lifecycle approach to seamlessly manage requirements, test assets, defects, and ongoing application changes.

The granular and comprehensive coverage of changes ensures that every change request provides QA teams with visibility into the impact of changes on the application.



Import change packages from the SAP correction and transport system, which enables testing based on changes.

Based on this, you can focus testing on the affected SAP transactions and business processes rather than testing all of the application functionality. The result is significantly reduced testing effort and costs, especially if manual testing is involved. Furthermore, Mercury Change Impact Testing provides technical metrics specifying how a transaction is impacted, which together with the business criticality of the transactions helps determine the risk of changes.

HOW MERCURY CHANGE IMPACT TESTING FOR SAP WORKS

Import SAP Changes: Change-based testing keeps the testing effort on par with the changes being implemented onto the live SAP application. These changes are picked up from the SAP correction and transport system and imported directly into Mercury Quality Center™. In addition, these change packages can be imported from Mercury Deployment Management™. These changes are tied to the associated SAP transactions linked to the respective test cases, ensuring traceability throughout the testing process.

Business Impact Analysis: The impact of a change is correlated to the business process of an SAP application. Risk indicators are provided for the impacted SAP transaction to help determine the best test strategy. Some of these indicators are technical and are calculated automatically, such as Impact Strength, while others, such as Business Criticality, are derived from subject-matter experts. These indicators provide the proper insight to guide the testing effort.

Test Set Generation: Based on the changes, testers can start building the test plan and designing the actual tests. Test plans can be created in Mercury Quality Center. By maintaining all test planning information in a central repository, teams can easily reuse entire test plans or individual test cases for future application releases. After test design and development issues have been addressed, the testing team is

ready to start running tests. The Test Lab Manager allows scheduled tests to run unattended, overnight, or when the system is in least demand for other resources. By defining dependencies between tests, testing teams can realistically emulate real-life business processes, while making it easier to maintain and reuse the tests.

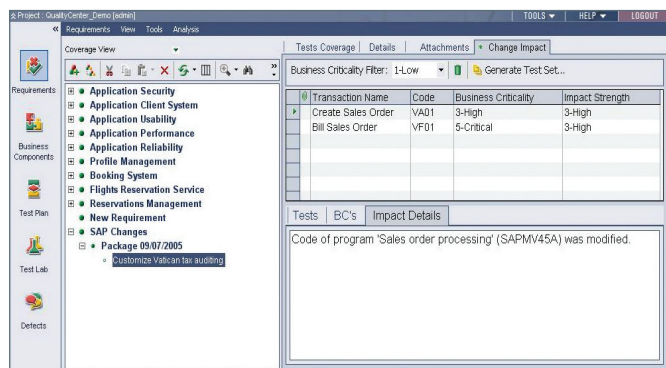
Graphs and Reports: The testing process generates large amounts of data. Customizable graphs and reports help users analyze this data. This enables change impact testing to provide up-to-the-minute analysis so well-informed decisions can be made with respect to testing and rolling out changes.

PART OF MERCURY QUALITY CENTER

Mercury Change Impact Testing is part of Mercury Quality Center, an integrated set of software, services, and best practices for automating key quality activities, including requirements management, test management, defect management, functional testing, and business process testing. Change Impact Testing also interfaces with Mercury Deployment Management for SAP Solutions to manage the entire end-to-end application change process, from initial change requests through final release of a change into production covering both SAP and non-SAP environments.

FEATURES AND BENEFITS

- Provides seamless integration to import change packages from the SAP correction and transport system directly into Mercury Quality Center.
- Accelerates testing cycles by identifying the testing scope defined by changes.
- Identify what is low- and high-risk and correlate testing efforts based upon the type and effect of the changes. Provides technical metrics specifying how a transaction is impacted, which together with the business criticality of the transactions helps to determine the risk of changes.
- Allows teams to associate change packages to test assets to defects and vice-versa, providing a complete cycle to maintain and manage an SAP application.
- Allows teams to analyze application readiness at any point in the testing process with integrated graphs and reports.



Impact of a change is correlated to the business process of an application based on risk indicators, such as Business Criticality and Impact Strength.

MERCURY™

Mercury is the global leader in business technology optimization (BTO). We are committed to helping customers optimize the business outcome of IT.
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