

Cognizant improves tester productivity and reduces customer application testing time by 20 percent with Informatica.



“We are shrinking clients’ development cycles by working with smaller sets of test data, and lowering IT costs through the use of smaller data sets that require less storage and fewer system resources.”

Pradeepkumar Govindasamy,
Director, Cognizant Testing Services

Leading global provider of IT, consulting, and business process services puts potential to work by helping its clients reduce development costs.

Twenty percent. That’s how much faster Cognizant is able to complete development projects for its customers using an Informatica® Test Data Management solution. This leading global provider of IT, consulting, and business process services is helping customers to shrink the time needed to bring new products and services to market, lower IT costs, and ensure that they meet their compliance goals around data privacy. Cognizant’s domain expertise and testing experience, coupled with the best-in-class Informatica Test Data Management solution has already

helped a U.S. retailer lower its test data provisioning time by more than 95 percent and achieve a 33 percent reduction in overall test cycle time. The solution also reduced test data provisioning time by 80 percent and test data size by 60 percent for an employee benefits management application project.

Turning Testing Challenges into a Competitive Advantage

Poor software quality costs organizations worldwide more than \$500 billion annually.¹ Yet software testing is often inefficient. With testers spending more than 30 percent of their time just managing test data and a growing focus on protecting confidential information and avoiding data breaches in testing environments, resources are not always allocated to the actual testing.



Cognizant

Business Initiatives:

- Improve testing productivity
- Reduce the cost of the test and development cycle
- Increase agility and shrink time to market
- Manage risk more effectively

Technology Strategy:

- Deployed an Informatica Test Data Management solution, consisting of Informatica Data Subset and Informatica Data Masking, to deliver secure test data subsets of database applications.

¹TechValidate Software, Inc. Research 2013.

Cognizant is changing all that. This \$7.3 billion provider of information technology, consulting, and business-process services is working with customers to reduce the challenges, costs, and complexities associated with managing test data in today's heterogeneous, distributed application environments. The company established an independent practice specializing in software testing more than a decade ago, and in the interim period Cognizant Testing Services has grown to include 23,000 testers. The testing services span consulting, enterprise services, and functionality for testing automation, data, and mobility.

Growing Demand for Testing Centers of Excellence

Cognizant has created testing centers of excellence for priority customers. These centers handle the entire application testing function within a customer organization. However, as the Cognizant Quality Engineering and Assurance Services grows, the existing internally developed test data management solution has impeded Quality Engineering and Assurance Services' ability to scale in line with customers' data growth. The tool introduced challenges to cope with the wide variety of data, including packaged applications such as SAP, Siebel, or other cloud sources. It was time to find an alternative test data management solution so that Cognizant could fuel continued out-performance.

"Software testing ensures the delivery of key parameters in a product or application, such as compliance, security, and reliability," explains Pradeepkumar Govindasamy, director of Cognizant Quality Engineering and Assurance Services functionality. "Test data management is a vital component in the overall testing architecture.

Effective testing helps detect defective systems and products earlier in the development life cycle, accelerate the roll out of new products and services, and protect brand image by avoiding expensive product recalls."

The question for Govindasamy's team was this: If the existing in-house test data management solution was not up to scratch, which one was? Cognizant subsequently reviewed the leading solutions for creating functionally intact, secure test data subsets of database applications and quickly shortlisted three solutions, including Informatica Test Data Management.

"Three criteria separated the Informatica Test Data Management solution from others vendors: scalability, flexibility, and a proven framework," says Govindasamy. "Our extensive proof of concept concluded that the independent Informatica solution is best equipped to create secure test data management subsets while minimizing cost, risk, and development times. It offers sub-setting and data masking in one unified solution to help maintain the confidentiality of test data where privacy compliance is critical. It ensures the completeness of the test data. And it ensures the test data is reusable across teams and phases."

Improved Testing Productivity

Cognizant has now standardized on Informatica Test Data Management as part of an end- to-end test data management service, branded TD Maxim.² The service blends Cognizant's domain expertise and testing experience with the data expertise of Informatica to help customers achieve faster, higher- quality, and drastically improved testing productivity. It interfaces with enterprise data sources such as RDBMS, mainframe, and

Benefits:

- Reduced total test management time by approximately 20 percent
- Lowered U.S. retailer's data provision time by more than 95 percent and achieved 33 percent reduction in cycle time
- Reduced employee benefits management application test data provisioning cycle time by 80 percent and test data size by 60 percent
- Maintained confidentiality of test data where privacy compliance is critical
- Protected customers' brand image by avoiding expensive product recalls
- Helped detect defective systems and products
- Enabled Cognizant testers to optimize their time improving productivity

Nuts & Bolts:

- Solution: Application information life cycle management
- Products: Informatica Data Subset and Informatica Data Masking
- Sources: Includes RDBMS, mainframe, and legacy file types
- Target: Secure test environment

²For more details, go to <http://www.cognizant.com/InsightsWhitepapers/Transforming-Test-Data-Management-for-Increased-Business-Value.pdf>

legacy file types— and is customizable to complement a broad range of data sources.

Govindasamy says, “Informatica Test Data Management reduces Cognizant’s total test management time by approximately 20 percent. We are shrinking customers’ development cycles by working with smaller sets of test data and lowering IT costs through the use of smaller data sets that require less storage and fewer system resources. Crucially, the solution also supports our customers’ compliance goals using masked data.”

An example of this success comes from a major U.S. retailer, which was facing challenges in managing data for testing because of its heterogeneous environment. Using Cognizant’s domain expertise and Informatica Test Data Management, the retailer was able to

create an integrated framework for automation, generating a test bed in a single click. Overall, the solution helped the retailer reduce the time to provision data by over 95 percent and achieve a 33 percent reduction in cycle time.

Informatica Test Data Management was also recently used to test an employee benefits management application. The result was an 80 percent reduction in the test data provisioning cycle time and a 60 percent reduction in test environment data size. “Whenever we are pitching to prospects and we mention that we are using Informatica Test Data Management, their eyes light up,” says Govindasamy. “It gives them confidence to know Cognizant is partnering with an independent, leading test data management vendor.”



Digital transformation is changing our world. As the leader in enterprise cloud data management, we’re prepared to help you intelligently lead the way. To provide you with the foresight to become more agile, realize new growth opportunities or even invent new things. We invite you to explore all that Informatica has to offer—and unleash the power of data to drive your next intelligent disruption. Not just once, but again and again.

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