Test Data Warehouse

Accelerate Testing Cycles and Improve Collaboration with Test Data on Demand

Software testing can take upwards of 50 percent of the time required to develop and deploy new initiatives or rollout upgrades or patches to existing systems. During the testing process, finding, securing, and provisioning of test data that meets test case requirements can present a significant challenge.

If representative data exists in production databases, test teams can request non-production, masked copies of the data. This can take weeks to months to have entire databases provisioned for use by testers, inserting delays in your agile development processes. If data does not exist, testers can manually create data sets. This can be difficult, however, and the breadth of test case coverage can be limited.

Test Data Warehouse (TDW) is a key component of the Informatica Test Data Management (TDM) suite and provides a central repository where test data sets are stored, shared, and provisioned directly by and for the testing community. Collaboration capabilities provide marking, tagging, and searching capabilities across test data sets with provisioning and re-set on demand. Test teams can use TDW to identify their unique set of “golden test records” and provision data within shared test environments without the risk of testing collisions or data corruption that can spoil test results.

Test data can be masked copies of production data and/or synthetically generated using integrated data subset, data masking, and data generation capabilities. Test data on demand meets the need of agile methodologies by enabling faster iterations between development and testing without requiring full refreshes of test environments.

Benefits

- Accelerate testing cycles with self-service provisioning of test data
- Ensure quality and consistent testing by aligning test data to test cases
- Improve productivity and collaboration through searching, marking and sharing of test data
- Optimize IT resources and reduce dependencies for provisioning database and application environments

Test data warehouse is part of the Secure Testing suite and allows test data administrators and QA engineers to collaborate and improve testing productivity.
Key Features

Test Data Reset
The provisioning and re-provisioning of test data sets ensures consistency of testing and accurate test results. A specified set of tables and rows are identified as a unique data set that meets the testing criteria. Authorized testers and test teams receive self-service capabilities to refresh their own test data sets to repeat tests or move to next phase testing. This reduces tester idle time and promotes continuity of testing activities without negatively impacting other test teams that are sharing the same test environments.

Test Data Versioning and Sharing
Multiple versions of a test data set can be stored in TDW. Test data set versions are created by refreshing data from the data source or by saving test results directly from the test environment. Each version of a data set can be marked with relevant information such as test name, testers, test cases run, and test results. The metadata makes it easy to search, share, and report across test data set versions and across all data sets.

Integrated Test Data Management Capabilities
TDM platform and components provide a rich set of capabilities to subset and mask existing data and also generate synthetic data. These data provisioning capabilities are fully integrated with TDW, enabling the storage of test data sets in a common, shared repository. In addition, Informatica’s TDM platform has industry-leading connectivity that allows heterogeneous application environments to be managed from a single TDM environment.

Single, Central Repository
Maintaining test data in a central repository ensures that it can be easily shared and re-used across environments. TDW lets you store test data sets across heterogeneous applications and databases in a single repository. You can search across all test data in one location, which allows sharing, collaboration and fast provisioning of test data across all of your test environments.

Testers can take subsets of data from a test environment and place it in a central test data warehouse for later use. They can name and tag these data sets so these can be searched later on and used in testing.
Key Benefits

Accelerate Testing Cycles
Agile development requires ‘shift left testing’ capabilities. TDW enables testing to keep up with shorter
development cycles and sprints through self-service provisioning and reset of test data. Test teams can
provision test data independently to maximize testing activities and efficiencies. By eliminating bottlenecks in
test data provisioning, projects can be completed on time and on budget.

Improve Testing Productivity
With TDW testers are empowered to provision, manage, and share test data sets. Test teams can find
appropriate test data sets and mark versions to align with test cases and scenarios. Search and collaboration
capabilities let testers quickly identify and re-use core data across multiple test and projects in parallel. They
can lock and reserve test data for specific test cases to ensure consistency of testing.

Ensure Quality and Consistency
Finding and reducing defects is the number one goal of testing. Having the right sets of data that cover the
broadest range of test cases at your fingertips maximizes the ability to find and detect errors in the software.
It also eliminates manual data creation inefficiencies and inconsistencies caused by managing data across
spreadsheets or other file formats.

Optimize IT Resources
Provisioning of test data generally requires a full database (physical or virtual) to be allocated. This makes it
difficult to share and coordinate activities across test teams. TDW saves IT staffing and infrastructure since test
teams can coordinate and isolate testing activities within common, shared database environments.

Testers can look at the data set and see which tables are included as well as relationships between these tables.
About Informatica

Informatica is a leading independent software provider focused on delivering transformative innovation for the future of all things data. Organizations around the world rely on Informatica to realize their information potential and drive top business imperatives. More than 5,800 enterprises depend on Informatica to fully leverage their information assets residing on-premise, in the Cloud and on the internet, including social networks.