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ALM/Quality Center

OpenText ALM/Quality Center serves as the single pane of glass to govern software quality and implement rigorous, auditable processes. Designed for complex multi-application environments, organizations can achieve high efficiency and measure quality with a requirements-driven and risk based testing approach.

What's New in Recent Releases

Security

SSO AUTHENTICATION

Standard SAML and OpenID based Single Sign-On (SSO) is supported. SSO access to ALM/Quality Center can be authorized in a federated environment. This enhances your ability in enterprise security and regulatory compliance. The SSO Configuration Wizard makes the setup easy for administrators.

SUPPORT OF MS-SQL SERVER AAD AUTH TYPE

By using AAD (Azure Active Directory) for identity management, it supports modern security features for database authentication and facilitates centralized identity management.

Clients and UI

WEB CLIENT

Web Client (formerly Web Runner) is a web-based client with a modern user interface that can be run in any browser/operation system of the end user's choice that meets system requirements. You can use most of the ALM/Quality Center modules, including Dashboard, Requirements, Releases, Test Plan, Test Lab, Test Runs and Defects. Moreover, it allows you to implement customizable workflows using the javascript language. You can also create and view test coverage for requirements, or view requirement coverage for tests.

The user interface of Web Client has been refreshed to be more convenient. New **'favorites'** feature and enhanced **filtering and grouping** boost productivity. Besides the hierarchical view, requirements now have a grid view making it easy to search and filter.
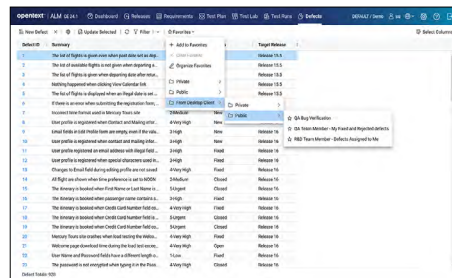

Figure 1. Web Client 'Favorites' feature

Non-English language support is added, including French, German, Brazilian Portuguese, Simplified Chinese, Japanese, and Korean, enabling your QA teams worldwide. Web Client keyboard navigation provides **accessibility** for those who rely on simple keys to interact with the system due to motor disabilities or other reasons.

WEB-BASED SITE ADMINISTRATION

This web-based client enables site administrators to manage their ALM/Quality Center environment from any browser/operating system meeting system requirements. It has become the default site administration UI, and the traditional desktop-based UI is obsolete.

ALM CLIENT LAUNCHER

Using the ALM Client Launcher tool, you can now run all ALM Desktop Client functions without dependency on Microsoft IE browser and Active X technology. It can be deployed via a Windows Installer and greatly reduce administration overhead. The installer makes it easy for IT organizations to distribute ALM Client Launcher to all end-user environments. You can also install ALM Client Launcher from

Vodafone Qatar

"Compared with other testing tools in the market, an upgrade from Quality Center to ALM/QC on Saas satisfied all our requirements, came with excellent local support and offered a distinct cost benefit."

SHINU THULASEEDHARAN
Senior Test and Quality Manager

command line, enabling automatic deployment using scripts. Alternatively, your organization may let each individual user install it for himself without the need of administrator privilege.

DESKTOP CLIENT—MY HOMEPAGE

The personalized My Homepage serves as the landing page to boost user productivity. It shows the user's open work items and most recent updates, as well as his personal dashboard.

In addition, project managers or team leaders can share their personal overview with the team to facilitate communication.

DESKTOP CLIENT—RECYCLE BIN

Recycle Bin has been introduced for test plans and test sets, safeguarding entities from accidental deletion.

DESTOP CLIENT—PURGE TEST RUNS

This feature has been enhanced. The purge now runs in the background, ensuring that the UI stays unblocked during the processes.

Cloud Support

We now support installing and running ALM/Quality Center in any cloud environment that meets the system requirements. OpenText has tested and certified the product on:

- AWS (including AWS GovCloud)
- Azure (including Azure Government)
- Google Cloud

ALM/Quality Center SaaS now gives customers more capabilities to manage their instances by themselves through the **Customer Admin** role, including license assignment within the customer organization. Some Site Admin REST API calls support SaaS as well. See the API documentation for details.

Reporting

ODATA FEED

With **OData (Open Data Protocol) feed** you can send ALM data to BI or ETL tools (such as Salesforce Tableau and Microsoft PowerBI) for advanced analytics.

CUSTOM GROUPING IN DEFECTS AGE GRAPHS

Introduced a flexible way of configuration allowing you to divide defects into a custom number of groups at a custom age interval.

QUALITY INSIGHT

A new analytics engine with high speed and power is introduced. It lays the foundation for a variety of advanced data analytics.

A Quality Insight executive dashboard powered by the new engine is provided supporting KPI cards for monitoring the status against your requirements, test instances or defects across projects.

NEW AND ENHANCED GRAPH TYPES

Some new graph types are introduced, providing advanced insights into data. The **Composite Graph** correlates entities across multiple graphs, while **Trend Graph** shows progress and trend. **Cycle Time Graph** lets you analyze time elapsed end-to-end such as 'Time to resolution', to identify bottleneck or waste in your application delivery process. **Anomolies Graph** helps identify work that has been stuck for an extended amount of time to avoid delays. **Test Execution Treemap** gives an intuitive presentation of the testing status and size of each test set. You can instantly notice problematic areas and drill down to investigate why.

The **Planned vs. Actual Graph** now has a new version that allows not only last run results, but also historical data in it. It also provides more options to let you control the criteria for calculating the "planned" and "actual" lines. With that, you can use this type of graph in ways that meet your business needs.

The **Progress Graph** can now show a 'total' line which represents the sum of the individual categories in the graph, helping visualize the overall progress. You can toggle the 'total' line on/off as needed.
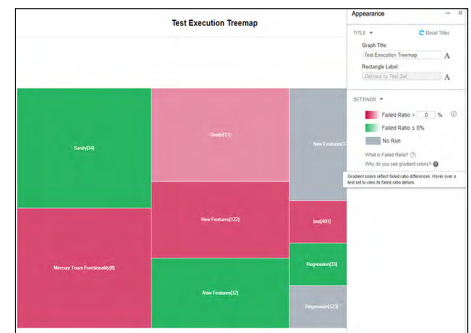

Figure 2. Test Execution Treemap

HEALTH REPORTS

The health report provides an out-of-the-box set of key metrics that will help you gain visibility and control of your project's progress and health. The health report dashboard can be used as a template and deployed over multiple projects.

TEST SET EXECUTION PREVIEW

This new type of project report shows your test instances and their related design steps and parameters, before actual execution. The preview helps you avoid unnecessary test failures.

64-BIT OFFICE SUPPORT

- Business Views Microsoft Excel Add-in now connects to ALM/Quality Center using REST API and supports 64-bit Excel.

- You can now create report templates with 64-bit Microsoft Office.

Integrations

AGILE AND DEVOPS INTEGRATION

The Test Runs Injection feature can push the results of ALM/Quality Center managed tests, such as UFT and Business Process Tests, into ALM Octane. It helps hybrid-mode development teams consolidate all tests into a single point of truth.

Also introduced **ALM Test Management plugin for Jira**, allowing Jira users to continue planning and delivering their work items in Jira, with immediate visibility of the larger quality process managed in ALM/Quality Center. The plugin is available for both Jira Cloud and Jira Server and Data Center.

Similarly, an **ALM Test Management extension for Microsoft Azure DevOps** is released. It allows the development teams using Azure DevOps to immediately see the status of relevant tests conducted in ALM/Quality Center.

Through OpenText Connect Core and its connectors, ALM/Quality Center can map and synchronize entities with any of those 3rd-party or OpenText tools that have a connector, including Jira, Azure DevOps, ServiceNow and many others.

SAP SOLUTION MANAGER INTEGRATION

You can integrate ALM/Qualtiy Center with SAP Solution Manager (Solman) through OpenText Connect Core and the SAP Solution Manager Connector. This integration allows synchronizing an ALM requirement parent folder with a Solman BPH (Business Process Hierarchy) node, and ALM defects with Solman incidents, enabling SAP application teams to leverage both ALM and Solman to smoothly manage their development, testing and maintenance activities.

COLLABORATION TOOL INTEGRATION

Through the integration with Microsoft Teams, project members will be informed about ALM events and reports directly in Teams allowing for real-time discussion between project members and stakeholders, making remote collaboration fast and easy.

CORE REST API

ALM/Quality Center now has an officially supported full-function Core REST API, that covers most of the operations that can be done via the GUI. There'll be no longer a Technical Preview REST API.

Administration

FUNCTIONS ADDED TO SITE ADMIN

Web Client (formerly Web Runner) management and API Key management which were outside of Site Administration are consolidated into it. The API Key management screen is enhanced to better manage expiration and keys for OData usage.

A 'Monitoring' section is added where yon can monitor connected users, TEA (Test Execution Agent) host service, and audit log (available in ALM on SaaS only).

AUDIT ENHANCEMENTS

Customizations on project entities and requirement types, changes to workflow, and the IP address of any connected end-user can now be tracked in audit log. User login/logout time can also be logged. Moreover, the execution user of each test step can be captured and shown in the Run Details page. Changes to site parameters are tracked as well. These enhancements help satisfy stringent audit needs in highly regulated industries.

Audit log filter has been introduced. It currently allows getting user management logs out of all the data. More filtering functions will be added in future releases.

SITE ADMINISTRATION REST API

You can use the REST API to access and work with data in Site Administration to automate your routine administration tasks. This API set has a Swagger reference which makes API programming much easier.

In addition, some new API calls are added:

- **REST API calls for managing API keys.** Provides a secure, standardized, and scalable approach to distribute, control access to, and audit the usage of API keys in various applications and environments.

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- **REST API calls for generating admin report.** The report shows all details of your ALM instance in json or csv format, enabling further automatic processing by scripts

Did You Know?

- Access all product resources from ALM/Quality Center home page.
- Learn more about recent releases by reviewing the ALM Documentation online.
- Keep up to date on the latest news and events with the DevOps Cloud Blog.

Learn more at
www.opentext.com

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