Effective collaboration across teams, processes, and tools drives successful projects. Testing is an area that software delivery teams see as a time-consuming, poorly focused hindrance to achieving project goals. Micro Focus® Silk Central™ is an open test management solution that addresses this issue by aligning goals and requirements with testing, technology, and processes. It provides an integrated framework for improving productivity, traceability, and visibility for all types of software testing and ensures control over application readiness.

**Product Overview**

Silk Central reflects the way today’s organizations work. As a scalable, flexible test management engine, it helps development teams deliver better quality software faster—ensuring greater value in a shorter timeframe.

Silk Central provides goal and requirement driven test management. It coordinates technologies, resources, team capabilities, and meaningful deliverables to promote quality, collaboration, efficiency, and confidence. Silk Central scales from supporting a single project to being the axis that unites software development teams at different locations, right across an organization.

The keyword-driven testing capabilities of Silk Central help to improve testing ROI by providing an easy-to-use interface for both business users and test engineers. The seamless integration of Silk Central and Silk Test™ also improves test asset reuse and provides a clear and efficient methodology to convert manual into automated tests.

**Client and Project Structure**

Silk Central supports the diverse needs of customers and the scale of deployment by using ‘Clients’ to support a multi-tenancy approach to project configuration. This enables organizations to separate projects according to their clients while maintaining security and control with additional ability to manage license allocation, either within a single database or across multiple database instances.

Silk Central delivers control over application quality by providing consistent, repeatable processes from traditional methodologies—such as Waterfall—right through to more iterative approaches, including Agile. It is a unified framework for managing manual and automated tests and integrates with unit, functional, and performance test suites; issue and requirement management systems; and continuous integration and DevOps activities.

**Quick View**

- Improve ROI with keyword-driven testing, converting from manual tests to automated
- Align with business needs with multi-requirement integrations and quality goals
- Gain advanced reporting, which includes project status, requirements and test coverage, quality trends, milestones, defect trends, and performance trends
- Automatically email reports to groups, provide external URLs, or publish to Silk Central Dashboard
- Gain real-time visibility of manual test activities via Testbook collaboration
- Gain cloud support for test execution with Amazon, Azure, and private clouds
- Effectively leverage open source, commercial, and in-house tools
- Manage go or no-go decisions based on quality goals and testing
- Understand every aspect of your manual test planning and execution activities
- Quickly execute tests offline
- Reduce rework and reuse test assets
- Perform mobile testing both on-premises and on the cloud (Mobile Center and SauceLabs)
- Efficiently execute tests with parallel test execution

**Shared Assets**

- Drive reuse and maintainability through the sharing of test assets across projects

**Accessibility Support**

- Facilitating accessibility needs through support for NVDA/JAWS
Key Features

Shared Test Assets Across Projects
Drive improved reuse and lower maintenance overhead across projects through Silk Central’s ability to share tests across projects. Defining a central test repository and enabling projects to reference tests improves process and practice within your organization.

Manage Requirements from Multiple Sources
Silk Central enables you to bring requirements together, regardless of source, into one single Silk Central project. Gain a centralized end-to-end view in one location to enhance collaboration and control across your project, ensuring all business needs are met.

Highlight Risk Mitigation and Quality Goals
Silk Central helps testers prioritize, execute, and demonstrate how test efforts respond to initiatives such as risk-based testing and requirement-driven testing. Reports illustrate how testing has responded to these defined quality goals, ultimately enabling the critical go or no-go decision.

Advanced Manual Execution Planning
Silk Central increases efficiency and productivity by making it easy to identify, plan, and schedule manual tests:
- **What to test:** through quality goals and filters
- **When to test:** plan test cycles within specified time frames
- **Where to test:** which systems or configurations to use

Who to test: allocation of resource and time capacity

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**Figure 3.** Silk Central integrates with third-party requirement, automation, incident, and source control tooling.

**Figure 4.** Dashboard reporting, requirements, tests, and execution

**Figure 5.** Advanced manual execution planning

**Testbook: Collaboration and Control**
The Testbook delivers real-time updates on all activities during manual testing. It simplifies collaboration among testers and test managers by displaying who did what and when.

**Keyword-Driven Testing**
Keyword-driven testing closely couples Silk Central management and Silk Test automation capabilities:
- Involve different professional groups in the test automation process by separating test design and implementation.
  - Keyword-driven tests consist of keywords and keyword sequences, represented in code
  - Keywords and sequences are centrally stored in keyword libraries
- Benefits in maintenance— inherent reuse of test code or keywords and easy abstraction of low-level automation and high-level business scenarios through multi-level keyword sequences.
- Keyword tests can be based on existing manual test steps. This enables a seamless transition from manual to automated testing.
- Automatically analyzing the structure of existing keyword-driven tests, Silk Central recommends likely keywords for the currently edited keyword-driven test.
Result Collaboration
Extend ability to integrate with existing test execution tooling eco-systems for the purpose of result analysis:
- Consume results for automated tests that have not been executed through Silk Central execution servers.
- Collect all assets—like requirements, tests, and results—of the whole testing process in one central place for holistic reporting and decision making.

Advanced Manual Test Interface
The web-based manual test interface requires no installation. Intuitive and easy to use with little or no training, the manual test interface enables users to execute tests and capture evidence to support test execution with screenshots, videos, audio, result files, code coverage, and defects.

Management and Control of Test Executions
Organizations need to drive efficient test execution. With Silk Central parallel testing capabilities, you can efficiently execute your automated tests in parallel across all of your execution servers—ultimately reducing your overall test time and driving efficiency into your project. Silk Central allows you flexibility in your approach as to what is executed in parallel and what resources are being used.

Mobile Testing
- Mobile device testing on-premises with the Silk Device Lab, Mobile Center, or in the cloud through integration with SauceLabs.
- When manually testing mobile applications, Silk Central ‘mirrors’ the mobile device on your desktop for convenient interaction with remote test devices.
- Access any remote iOS or Android device as if it is locally connected, with flexible scheduling control of manual and automated tests. Test teams can access mobile test devices using multiple device filtering options, including device, platform, application, or device name.

Real-Time Reporting and Analytics
Review a full audit status of manual test results and associated defects. Identify full traceability to issues raised, associated result files, and progress status in a format that you can view online, print, or export to a PDF. Video and Screen Capture for manual and automated test activities facilitates reproduction of issues and compiling of evidence to support compliance and audit needs.

Flexible Reporting
As well as the wealth of metrics and analytics available through default reports, Silk Central accommodates custom reporting needs, with support for MS Word and BIRT for advanced reporting and export of data to PDF or MS Excel.

Supported Environments and Integrations
Micro Focus Software Support
- Silk Performer
- Silk Test
- StarTeam®
- AccuRev
- Caliber
- Silk TestPartner™
- Atlas
- Micro Focus Connect
- Deployment Automation
- Release Control
- Solutions Business Manager
- Mobile Center

Third-Party Software Support
- IBM DOORS, DOORS Next Generation
- IBM Rational ClearQuest
- Bugzilla
- Atlassian JIRA and JIRA Agile
- VersionOne Enterprise Edition
- CA Agile Central (Rally)
- JUnit and NUnit
- SAP Solution Manager
- Subversion
- Git
- Team Foundation Server
- VMware vCloud Director
- Microsoft Office Word and Excel
- Amazon and Azure Cloud execution
- SauceLabs
- Apache Commons Virtual File System (VFS)
- Microsoft Visual Studio/Visual Studio Test Agent
- Plug-in API for additional integrations

Please consult your Micro Focus account representative for supported versions and additional integrations.
Insight into Testing through Code and Configuration Coverage

Silk Central provides code coverage analysis for manual and automated tests for .NET or Java apps to help Identify functionality gaps in the existing test definitions.

Configuration testing ensures that tests can be executed against multiple configurations without the need for duplication, providing clear reuse of scripts, management of tests, and reporting on coverage of test environments.

Side-by-Side Results Comparison for Automated Tests

Quickly gain insight into the status of automated test runs using side-by-side result analysis. Compare runs and gain visual reports showing the status across each execution and each individual configuration.

Figure 9. Side-by-side result comparison

 Agile Test Management

Optimized to test both Agile and traditional projects, Silk Central speeds up test execution and increases collaboration on quality assurance activities. Its manual execution planning supports Agile development through progress reporting, burndown charts, planning, and personal dashboards. Silk Central offers strong integrations with CA Agile Central (Rally) and Atlassian Jira Agile.

Simplify User Maintenance with LDAP or Active Directory (AD)

Automatically create and authenticate users on demand. Eliminate the need to manually create users who are interested or involved in test activities with Silk Central accounts.

Issue Tracking

Use the built-in issue tracking capabilities of Silk Central to raise, track, and manage issues against test assets and a defined workflow relevant to your organization.

Extend Control and Collaboration with the Micro Focus Silk Portfolio

The Silk Portfolio covers every angle of your unit, functional, and performance testing, whether manual or automated. The Silk Portfolio includes:

- **Silk Test**—automation, functional and regression testing
- **Silk Performer™**—performance testing for web and mobile
- **Silk Mobile™**—functional testing of mobile devices.

Why not try Silk Central for free to discover how it can improve the way you manage assets and activities? Try now at: [www.microfocus.com/products/silk-portfolio/silk-central/trial/](http://www.microfocus.com/products/silk-portfolio/silk-central/trial/)

### System Requirements

**Operating System Support**

**Additional for Mobile Device Testing**
- Android 4.4, 5.x, 6.x, 7.x, 8.x
- iOS 9.3, 10.x, 11.x

**Additional for Execution Server**
- Windows 7 SP1, 8.1 (32/64bit), Windows 10 (32/64bit)
- Ubuntu, Red Hat Enterprise Linux, Debian, SUSE® Linux

**Web Server Support**
- IIS 8, 10 (32/64Bit)
- Standalone web server (Tomcat)

**Web Browser Support**
- Internet Explorer 10 or later (no compatibility mode), Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge

**Database Support**
- Microsoft SQL Server 2014 SP2, 2016 SP1, 2017
- Oracle 11g (11.2.0.4), 12c (12.1.0.2)