Silk Central

Micro Focus Silk Central is an open solution that addresses test management 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 Highlights**

Effective collaboration across teams, processes, and tools drives successful projects. Yet software delivery teams see testing as time-consuming, poorly focused, and a hindrance to project goals. 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 in different locations, right across an organization.

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. As a unified framework for managing manual and automated tests, it integrates with unit, functional, and performance test suites; issue and requirement management systems; and continuous integration (CI) and DevOps tools.

**Business Process Testing**

The Business Process Testing (BPT) capabilities in Silk Central support an organization’s need to validate end-to-end business processes implemented in the application. Besides demonstrating end-to-end process quality, BPT also enables control among testers, such as the hand-off between teams and the behavior on test failure.

**Test Asset Workflow**

Drive improved management and control across your tests while maintaining auditability.

**Key Benefits**

- Drive reuse and reduce overheads
  - Reduce rework and drive reuse by sharing test assets across projects.
  - Improve ROI with keyword-driven testing and manual-to-automated test conversion.
  - Efficiently execute tests with parallel test execution.
  - Quickly execute tests offline.

- Control application readiness
  - Align business needs with multi-requirement integrations and quality goals.
  - Base go/no-go decisions on quality goals and testing.
  - Control test process through test asset workflow.
  - Understand every aspect of manual test planning and execution activities.
  - Validate business transactions end-to-end with Business Process Testing (BPT).

- Enjoy open test management
  - Effectively leverage open-source, commercial, and in-house tools.
  - Provision a test execution environment from the cloud with Amazon, Azure, and private cloud integration.
  - Perform mobile testing on premises and in the cloud.

- Save administrative cost
  - Set administrators free from client maintenance with web-based UI.
  - Save time in accessing reports through report subscription, automatic emails and dashboard external URL.
  - Empower visually-impaired users with built-in NVDA/JAWS support.
Transition tests through a review process from Draft, Under Review, to Approved state with full audit control at each stage, and use dedicated role permissions to control the process. Redundant tests can be marked as Obsolete at any stage of the workflow, ready for final review before deletion.

Client and Project Structure
Silk Central supports your diverse needs, and the scales of deployment, by using clients (distinct units within a Silk Central instance) to support a multi-tenancy structure. This enables organizations to separate projects by clients while maintaining security and control, with additional ability to manage license allocation, either within a single database or across multiple database instances.

Key Features
Requirement Management
MANAGE REQUIREMENTS FROM MULTIPLE SOURCES
Silk Central enables you to unite requirements, regardless of source, into a single project. Achieve a centralized end-to-end view in one location to enhance collaboration and control across your project.

TEST AGILE REQUIREMENTS
Silk Central offers strong integrations with leading agile planning and tracking tools such as Atlassian Jira Agile and Broadcom Rally. Silk Central manual execution planning supports agile development through progress reporting, burndown charts, planning, and personal dashboards. Optimized to test both agile and traditional requirements, Silk Central accelerates test execution and increases collaboration on quality assurance activities.

MITIGATE RISK USING QUALITY GOALS
Silk Central helps testers prioritize, execute, and demonstrate how their efforts respond to risk-based and requirement-driven testing. Silk Central reports illustrate how testing has responded to these defined quality goals, ultimately enabling the critical go/no-go decision.

Test Planning and Execution
ADVANCED MANUAL EXECUTION PLANNING
Silk Central increases efficiency and productivity by making it easy to identify, plan, and schedule manual tests. It allows users to decide:
- What to test through quality goals and filters
- When to test by planning test cycles within specified timeframes
- Where to test by choosing which systems or configurations to use
- Who to test by allocating based on resource and time capacity

PARALLEL TEST EXECUTIONS
Organizations need efficient test execution. The parallel testing capabilities within Silk Central execute automated tests across every execution server at the same time—reducing overall test time and driving project efficiency. Silk Central provides users with the flexibility to decide what to execute in parallel and what not to.

MOBILE TESTING
- Execute mobile device testing with Micro Focus UFT Mobile and Silk Test Workbench integration, including automated functional tests and manual tests.
- Use Silk Central when manually testing mobile applications. It mirrors the mobile device on your desktop for convenient interaction with remote test devices.
- Enjoy the flexible scheduling control of manual and automated tests as if any remote iOS or Android device were connected locally. Test teams can also select mobile test devices using multiple filtering options, including device type, platform, application, or device name.

TESTING FROM EVERY ANGLE
Integration with many testing tools means Silk Central offers coverage of every angle of your application through unit, functional, and performance testing, whether manual or automated.
CODE AND CONFIGURATION COVERAGE
Silk Central helps identify functionality gaps in current test definitions by providing code coverage analysis for manual and automated tests for .NET or Java apps.

Configuration testing ensures test scripts executed against multiple configurations need no duplication, providing script reuse and reporting on coverage of test environments.

EXECUTION SNAPSHOT
Exporting the 'Document View' of the Execution Planning unit to Microsoft Excel creates a snapshot of execution status and progress for management, analytics, and reporting.

Tracking and Reporting

TESTBOOK: INSIGHT INTO MANUAL TESTS
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.

SIDE-BY-SIDE RESULTS COMPARISON FOR AUTOMATED TESTS
Use side-by-side result analysis for fast insight into the status of automated test runs. Compare runs with visual reports showing the execution status across every individual configuration.

TEST RESULT CONSOLIDATION
Improve result analysis by extending test execution tooling eco-systems:

- Collect all artifacts—such as requirements, tests, and results—in a single repository for holistic reporting and decision-making.

REPORTING AND ANALYTICS
Use the reports to view a full audit status of manual test results and associated defects. You can also trace issues raised, associated result files, and progress status in a format viewable online or exported to a PDF. Use video and screen capture for manual and automated test activities to reproduce issues and compile evidence to support compliance and audit needs.

As well as rich metrics and analytics available through default reports, Silk Central accommodates custom reporting needs. It supports Microsoft Word and BIRT for advanced reporting and can export data to PDF or Microsoft Excel.

FACILITATE ACCESSIBILITY NEEDS
By supporting keyboard navigation and facilitating audible feedback through a screen reader, Silk Central is accessible for blind or visually impaired users. It supports both NVDA and JAWS.

SIMPLIFY USER MAINTENANCE WITH LDAP OR ACTIVE DIRECTORY (AD)
Automatically create and authenticate users on demand. Eliminate the need to manually create accounts for users who are interested or involved in test activities with Silk Central.

Supported Integrations

INTEGRATIONS VIA MICRO FOCUS CONNECT
The Micro Focus Connect portfolio of integrations provides extensive integration capabilities. Its Silk Central Test Manager Connector simplifies integration setup, optimizes requirement synchronization performance, and enables better visibility into test asset relationships and traceability between tests and defects.

INTEGRATIONS VIA SILK CENTRAL API
Silk Central offers SOAP-based Web Services for the integration of third-party applications, as well as a REST API for managing results of external execution plan runs.

www.microfocus.com
MICRO FOCUS SOFTWARE INTEGRATIONS
- Silk Performer
- LoadRunner Professional
- Silk Test
- UFT One
- UFT Developer
- StarTeam
- AccuRev
- Caliber
- Silk TestPartner
- Atlas
- Deployment Automation
- Release Control
- Solutions Business Manager
- UFT Mobile
- Micro Focus Connect
- Jenkins, Hudson
- Microsoft TFS
- Selenium

THIRD-PARTY SOFTWARE INTEGRATIONS
- IBM DOORS, DOORS Next Generation
- IBM Rational ClearQuest
- Bugzilla
- Atlassian Jira and Jira Agile
- VersionOne Enterprise Edition
- Broadcom Rally (formerly CA Agile Central)
- 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.

System Requirements

Operating System Support

Additional for Mobile Device Testing
- Android 5.x, 6.x, 7.x, 8.x, 9.x and 10.x
- iOS 10.x, 11.x, 12.x and 13.x

Additional for Execution Server
- Windows 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 11 or later (no compatibility mode), Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge

Database Support
- Microsoft SQL Server 2014 SP3, 2016 SP2, 2017, 2019
- Oracle 11g (11.2.0.4), 12c (12.2.0.1)

Please refer to Installation and System Configuration Help in Silk Central documentation for further details.