

# ALM Octane

Achieving higher levels of agility, traceability, predictability, and velocity is an ongoing journey. But it shouldn't be rocket science. Recent product enhancements will help you streamline your software factory to deliver better value faster and safer. Learn more about what's new in ALM Octane.

## Key Enhancements in the Last Two Years

### New Capabilities for ALM/Quality Center with ALM Octane

- Inject test runs from OpenText™ Application Lifecycle Management (ALM)/OpenText™ Quality Center (QC) to OpenText™ ALM Octane. For example, run tests in ALM/Quality Center and then use ALM Octane to track results and backlog coverage, even alongside Agile, Waterfall or Hybrid projects, all within Octane.
- Run automation tests on demand.
- Run automation tests on remote hosts—no central CI is needed!
- Keep Run Reports as long as needed.
- Keep track of Requirements' changes (versioning).
- Visualize Manual Test Burndown.
- Integrate with SAP SolMan.
- Manual Test runner—see Expected vs. Actual side by side.
- Extract and migrate entities from ALM/Quality Center, including UFT One tests.
- Get automated or manual Test Runs injected into ALM Octane on the go.

### Ready to Migrate from ALM/Quality Center to ALM Octane?

A free migration tool is now available to automate an incremental migration process of ALM/Quality Center projects to Octane. Also, the Micro Focus GoOctane R&D team is available and happy to assist and provide advice and guidance on your migration process. For details see the [ALM/QC to Octane Migration](#)

[page](#) or simply contact us at: [go.octane@microfocus.com](mailto:go.octane@microfocus.com).

### ALM Octane Developer (License)

In addition to OpenText™ ALM Octane Enterprise and OpenText™ ALM Octane Pro, OpenText™ ALM Octane Developer can now enable developers to participate in quality! The ALM Octane Developer license enables backlog management, defect management, DevOps pipeline management, and manual testing execution. Either On Premises or over SaaS, the developer license provides developer-specific capabilities at an affordable price.

### Insights and Data Visualization

When data visualizations go beyond basic metrics, development and business stakeholders can spot emerging opportunities they weren't even looking for. ALM Octane continues to enhance its dashboard and analytics capabilities to help organizations continuously improve.

- Present the most critical information based on the user's role with new **dashboard templates** that include preconfigured and editable widgets. Dashboard templates include Quality, Release Management, and Cross Release Trends and Analytics.
- Examine **Automation ROI** with a new set of analytics that show you how automation affects key indicators, such as the development cycle time and regression cost. You can also pinpoint areas where you should focus your efforts and measure overall automation effectiveness.
- Analyze trends, identify bottlenecks, find correlations, and detect anomalies in your development cycle with ALM Octane's **widgets and insight cards**. OpenText™

continues to enrich these elements, and recent additions include resolution time vs. reopen rate, cycle time of features, and resolution time of defects.

- Report a project's content in both Word (docx) and PDF formats with ALM Octane's Document Report.
- Quickly and easily find anomalies and issues in a process with Flag Rules.
- Consolidate graph and widget data into an accessible and easy to read textual-tabular mode.
- With ALM Octane Enterprise you can now create public dashboards that can be shared outside ALM Octane and made viewable for those without a license.

### Release and Process Management

ALM Octane now includes expanded release management capabilities to gain control and visibility into the activities that make up your release lifecycle. ALM Octane's release processes allow you to embed quality and quickly identify issues and bottlenecks. You can also examine planned versus actual times for each stage and activity. Thus you can improve the planning for the same processes in the next release.

- Define **release process flows** that consist of several stages. Each stage contains actions and quality gates.
- Use Quality Gates to verify that that certain criteria are met before moving to the next stage. During the stage's execution, the quality gate's owner will evaluate defined criteria.
- Use the **release process entity** to track, coordinate, and manage all release stages and activities.

## Quality Everywhere

A new BDD spec and scenario framework provides increased control for users to focus their test and automation efforts on specific use cases—rather than entire Gherkin tests.

- Use the new BDD framework to run individual scenarios, report on a scenario run level-offering you greater granularity than Gherkin tests, partially automate a BDD spec to only run some of its scenarios, and link specific scenarios to specific backlog items.
- Automate both Gherkin tests and BDD scenarios and collect test results with support for the JBehave framework and Cucumber-JVM.
- Manage development and quality efforts against risk. With a new Risk module under Quality, ALM Octane analyzes each Application Module and assigns a quality risk score to it. This allows you to focus quality efforts on the riskier areas of the application while saving time where the quality risk score is low. ALM Octane calculates risk based on the latest code changes made on a certain area of the application, level of automated or manual test coverage, failure rate and by the Business Impact, as defined by you, for each application module.
- A new Traceability Matrix widget helps to better understand the relationships between multiple entities and how they affect one another. For example, track all requirements of a particular release along with the tests that cover them. Another example would be to track all your team's features and the defects that cover them.
- Don't trust your CI's cleanup rules and instead store your automated test run report files as long as needed in any external storage. ALM Octane will keep a link to the report so you can always go back to the run report and analyze test failures.

- Measure the duration of manual or Gherkin test runs automatically with the new Manual Runner Timer. Stay on top of how much time it takes to run a test across testers or teams and optimize your overall testing process.
- The Test Run Burndown widget displays the execution of your planned runs over time, enabling you to track the convergence of a test execution plan.

## Pipelines and CI Integrations

CIs and pipelines are the engines that power agile and DevOps transformations. ALM Octane now includes parameter sets when creating a pipeline to make pipelines more dynamic and powerful. When a pipeline job is parameterized, a table detailing configuration parameters can be updated natively in ALM Octane. CI server integration now includes support for multi-branch pipelines in GitLab and Azure DevOps Services. You can also view code coverage and security vulnerability data from Jenkins pipeline-as-code jobs, in addition to freestyle jobs.

## Backlogs

Feature planning and prioritization are critical components of any release. ALM Octane simplifies planning and reduces scope sprawl. Users can now set a **Red Line** across the backlog according to whatever metric you use to define capacity, such as story points. This enhancement ensures planning never exceeds capacity and sets up delivery teams for success.

You can also **assign colors to backlog items** in the grid and board views according to filter conditions, making it easier than ever to identify and categorize items at a glance. Users may also save their preferences and share them with others.

Timeline View helps track and plan backlog Features and easily plan your deliveries and roadmaps along Sprints, Milestones, Releases, across different time scales, such as days, weeks or months.

## Work Items

ALM Octane can now identify work item related anomalies based on preconfigured **Flag Rules** that facilitate easy tracking and filtering. Examples of anomalies that can be flagged, tracked and filtered are defects stuck in a phase for an extended period, work items whose ownership was reassigned multiple times, and tests that have not been run for an extended amount of time.

Once you set flag rules, you can track them by adding the flag rule columns to your entity grid. Or filter the backlog based on specific flag rules.

The new Development tab provides visibility to all Code Commits, Pull Requests, and now Branches—all in a single location.

## Scaled Agile Framework

ALM Octane continues to expand support for the OpenText™ Scaled Agile Framework (SAFe). In addition to Essential SAFe configuration support, ALM Octane now fully supports **Large Solution SAFe configuration**. We provide explicit capabilities for the solution, program, and team levels. Integration with OpenText™ Project & Portfolio Management (PPM) for portfolio epics facilitates Portfolio to Full SAFe alignment.

Administrators can organize the backlog of a workspace into virtual sub-categories called programs. Within the same workspace, you can also leverage assigned programs for filtering across views, ranking, tracking, and reporting. **SAFe Program support** has also expanded so that you can assign releases, application modules, tests, and runs to a program.

**“ALM Octane supports our digital transformation objectives by addressing various challenges. We’re producing releases faster and having a single platform makes for easier management and better collaboration between development and testing teams.”**

**YANN HELLEBOID**

Testing Community Manager  
[Orange Labs](#)

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[OpenText CEO Mark Barrenechea's blog](#)



### Synchronization

Enhance ALM Octane’s native integrations with a free synchronization add-on. [OpenText™ Connect](#) synchronizes data and relationships and lowers administrative costs by replacing point-to-point integration with a single integration hub and connector framework. The tool not only supports OpenText™ solutions, such as ALM/Quality Center and PPM, but it also supports **numerous third-party tools**, including Atlassian Jira and Confluence, Broadcom Rally, Azure DevOps, Salesforce and ServiceNow.

### Collaboration

Working together has never been easier thanks to ALM Octane’s new Microsoft Teams integration. Once enabled, a **Discuss in Microsoft Teams** button appears on all work items, including epics, features, user stories, quality stories, and defects. Quickly share, ask questions, or just brainstorm with your team to work smarter, not harder.

### Administration

We designed ALM Octane to scale from small teams to large enterprises and continue to invest in user-friendly, advanced administration capabilities. We can’t list everything, but we can highlight the most recent enhancements:

- **Export and import shared space data** in a self-contained file, making it easier to build staging environments. Improve security in environments with sensitive data and contracted employees with **data access controls** for manual tests and defects.

- Use the **Offline Database Password Update Tool** to simplify database password updates in site schema and configuration files.
- View the **Activity Log tab** for all changes made in a workspace, including the history audit of work entities, such as defects and user stories.

### Usability

We always have our end users in mind. Every release includes new enhancements—both small and large—which make it more enjoyable to work with ALM Octane. We encourage you to review the online help to familiarize yourself with the changes in a given release. If you have ideas, please share them in the ALM Octane [Idea Exchange](#) so we can continue to improve your experience.

### Did You Know?

- Engage and share knowledge on a wide range of topics in the [Community Forum](#).
- Suggest a new idea, and contribute by voting on submissions in the [Idea Exchange](#).
- Learn more about recent releases by reviewing the [Online Documentation](#).
- Keep up to date on the latest news and events with the [Application Delivery Management Blog](#).

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[www.microfocus.com/opentext](http://www.microfocus.com/opentext)