

Silk Central

Micro Focus Silk Central is a unified test management solution that drives re-use and efficiency. It provides application readiness visibility, holistically manages manual test and automated test, and offers rich integrations.

What's New over the Last 2 Years

Business Process Testing (BPT)

To help customers validate end-to-end business transactions, Silk Central now supports business process testing (BPT)—an extension of Silk Central's manual testing capabilities.

This new functionality enables users to define input and output parameters for business components and form an 'information flow' that emulates the motion between business units. A status bar visualizes business process test progress. Like manual tests, BPT can be exported to or imported from a Microsoft Excel file.

Test Asset Workflow

Another new feature, the Test Asset Workflow, enables users to map processes in a corporate environment. It sets 'states' for manual tests and defines the tasks to be performed and by which role. It ensures a given sequence of work is followed, for example, approved tests only are selected for execution.

Need insight into the workflow status to facilitate planning and control? Within the 'Execution Planning' area of Silk Central, it shows the workflow state at the points of execution, and insight into state changes synchronized during the execution, to ensure the auditability of manual test reports.

Shared Tests

Silk Central now offers central test management to drive cross-project re-use; it creates a single point of truth, and one location for updates. Centrally updated tests automatically become available to local projects (consumers)

and where deviation from the central script is necessary, they can be moved to local projects. Reused tests still reference their origin, the central repository, and the level of test reuse is made visible.

Test Planning and Execution

In addition, distributed execution increases automated script execution efficiency. Run automated tests configured within the Test Execution Plan either sequentially or in parallel. Use Silk Central to configure matching execution servers, and specify the number of **parallel executions**.

Additional functionality within Silk Central enables further integration with existing tooling ecosystems by utilizing automated test results from outside Silk Central, while a new REST API enables such **external executions**. The central management of results drives

improved analytics, and embraces external test frameworks.

More insight into test executions is enabled. This includes searching for tests through Source Control profiles within the 'Tests' grid, viewing version and build information of automated tests in 'Current Executions' grid. Users can check the deployment time when the automated test execution plan is distributed to the execution server, and even export the content of document view in the 'Execution Planning' unit to Microsoft Excel to enable analytics and reporting.

Self-Registering Execution Server

Silk Central now enables the registration, which means the creation and the assignment to a location and therefore to a project, of new execution servers through command line. Execution resources can be used where needed without any UI overhead.

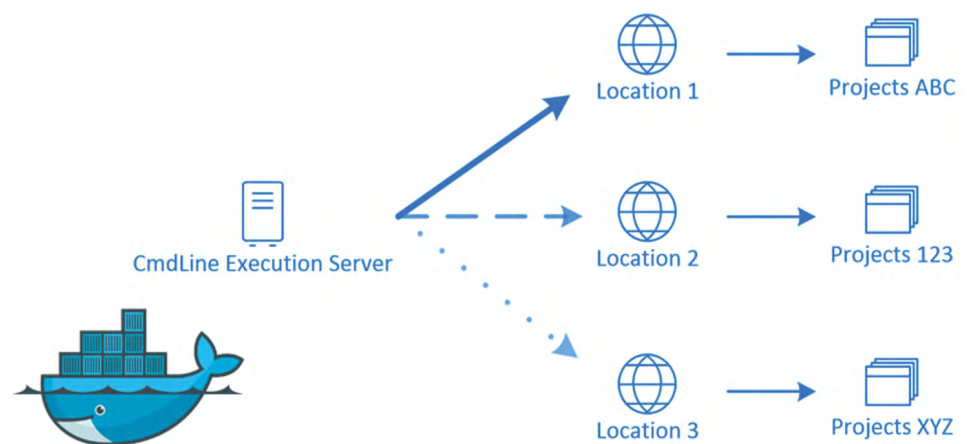


Figure 1. Self-registering execution server

Management and Control

Mandatory Attributes and Mandatory Custom Properties

Mandatory Attributes of test and Mandatory Custom Properties of requirement help standardize approaches and data usage by defining properties and attributes to ensure requirements or tests are not created without them.

Global Lists

Global List is a new attribute type, maintained only once, and used across projects. This reduces data management effort, while guaranteeing a common set of attribute values. Centrally manage Global Lists for data standardization and maintainability across Requirements, Tests and Execution Plans.

Linked Fields

Enables the grouping of value lists where the available values of one list depend on the selection in the other. Only having the valid subset of values available in a list reduces the likelihood of wrong input. Users can utilize Linked Lists for data selection and management of related fields, to improve usability and process. It is available for Requirements, Tests, and Issues.

User List

This is a new attribute type. Attributes of this type can be used in Tests and Execution Plans, and populated automatically to project users.

Integrations

Micro Focus Connect

Its enhanced connector for Silk Central provides extensive integration capabilities in line with the [Micro Focus Connect portfolio of integrations](#). It simplifies the integration setup between Silk Central and Micro Focus Connect by removing report configuration and extended APIs. Users achieve better visibility into test asset relationships, and traceability between tests and defects, and optimized requirement synchronization performance.

Micro Focus UFT Mobile Integration

Silk Central integrates with Micro Focus UFT Mobile to enable automated functional test execution on mobile devices, and provide those devices to Silk Test for both automated functional test creation, and execution. And access to mobile devices provided through UFT Mobile can be used in the manual testing process.

Micro Focus UFT Developer Integration

Extended support for automation tools includes UFT Developer execution through the JUnit and MSTest test types.

Enhanced Atlassian Jira Integration

- Enhanced security to support API token instead of 'plain' user passwords for Jira user authentications.
- Mandatory fields are highlighted when creating an issue through the Silk Central interface.
- Jira Software Cloud support.

Security Enhancements

- Increased role permission granularity with:
 - Separate role features for 'Tests' and 'Execution Planning'.
 - Introduction of a specific role permission for updating build information on finished runs, and such action is documented, increasing auditability.
- Able to deactivate SOAP Services on Axis 1.4 to ensure adherence to organizational security policies.
- For organizations that JNLP is prohibited by security policy, Silk Central provides an alternative to JNLP, to support the functions such as screen capture, video recording, and code analysis in 'Manual Testing' window.
- Restrict JMX access to application service, front-end-service and chart service to localhost.
- During installation, customers can enable secured communication with execution servers to ensure that JMX access to execution service is only open on a secured port.

Did You Know?

- Help us improve your test management experience by participating the Silk Central Improvement Program
- Learn more about recent releases by reviewing the [Silk Central Documentation](#) online.
- Keep up to date on the latest news and events with the [Application Delivery Management Blog](#).

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