Adventures in QA
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Prelude
About me

• For the longest time: Developer in C, C++
• Surprise career move to QA
• Amateur in QA
Company Profile

- Document conversion
- Large scale
- Highly portable C
- Some Java
Important Features

- Performance
- Resources
- Quality
- Usability (in progress)
- not so much: Security
Motivation
"Das ging doch schon mal?!!"
"But this used to work?!"
My First Regression Test Suite
Career
Career Path
The Job
"Make it work"
Develop

Test

Ship
Develop  Test  Ship

improve here
Wiggle Room only
3 Departments in 1
Infrastructure
Old Hardware
Time to run tests
Storage
Intermission

Some feedback from my helpful audience
Ideas from the Audience

- Partitioning - find the essential tests
- Reduce release frequency for some of the platforms
- Try differential pricing per platform
Ideas from the Audience

• Don‘t just set up rules (guidelines, directives), but explain why

• How do new people learn the rules? Try storytelling or mentoring

• Test the rules
Ideas from the Audience

• Get stakeholders involved, e.g. customers

• Get an outsider’s view, e.g. from a consultant
Changes
Quality as #3 problem
Exciting Changes Happening Soon

New Boss
Communication
New Rules
Theory vs. Practice
"Every new feature should have a test"
"This feature has to be in the next version"
Continuous Integration
Breaking the Build

• acting on failed tests
• figuring out who broke the build
  • time-consuming
  • whose responsibility is it?
• running the unit tests before committing
PRIVATE PROPERTY
KEEP OUT!

Test Ownership
New tests

• Providing test data
• Adding the tests
Outlook
New Projects
Does everybody "get" it yet?
What about me?
Test Communities do exist
Change takes time
- a lot of time
QA needs a "holistic" approach
Test automation
- The Holy Grail?
The End?
Credits

- Photos via flickr.com, thanks to: Hopkinsii, lotyloty, seier+seier, Alex Polezhaev, Horia Varlan, Caterina Fake, Steve Jurvetson, Stig Nygaard, Steve Punter, Peter Dutton, paul posadas, Erik Pitti, Nick J Webb, Bill Gantz, Jukka Zitting, Kevin Dooley, Jean-Pierre Dalbéra, Matti Mattila, Rebecca Krebs, mollybob, Matt Brown, Bob Bobster, James Bowe, Bhumika Guglani, manuki

- Photos and names are links - click them!