QA InfoTech

Your Software Testing Partner

EXCELLENCE | PARTNERSHIP | COMMITMENT

Outsourced Testing: The future ahead

What is outsourced testing?

Does it mean hiring a third-party vendor and entrusting them with the responsibility of the testing division and holding the vendor responsible if something goes haywire? It means much more than that.

Before going into the intricacies of outsourced testing, I would first like to talk about how specialization plays a major role in every one's day to day life. It seems weird but outsourced testing and specialization have a very deep correlation.

Since the beginning of the human civilization, an increasingly complex division of labour is closely associated with the growth of total output. Someone once said "To specialize is to brush one tooth. When a person specializes he channels all of his energies through one narrow conduit; he knows one thing extremely well and is ignorant of almost everything else." For example, what happens when your water tap breaks down or for that matter one of your electronic equipment stops working. What comes to our mind if something like this happens? Do we start repairing it on our own or do we immediately call for a plumber or an electrician. Have we ever thought why we do that? I know it is a stupid question to ask but they are the first person that comes to our mind because they specialize in their job. Thus in a way we are outsourcing a job to an individual that specializes in that job.

Testing is an integral part of the Software Development Life Cycle, but not a core competency of most companies across the world, which companies are now realizing. So in order to have a top-notch quality product, outsourcing the Testing Division (partially or fully) has become a very feasible option for several companies. What it does is, it provides specialization, cost benefits, resource leverage and independence.

The following are the advantages of outsourcing software testing:-

- **Second Opinion about the Product:** An individual living in a different surrounding or environment can give a better insight of the product from a QA perceptive which thus can help in making enhancements or improvements resulting in improved product quality, , better market share and more revenues

- **Reduced cost of labour:** If it is one time product, the cost of hiring and educating engineers would be an expensive preposition. Moreover such engineers do not always work up to the expectations as compared to a group of individuals who specialize in that job. Secondly, not all companies follow agile methodologies so there are cases where a full strength testing team would not be required all the time. In such cases it is better outsourcing the testing efforts rather than maintaining a full fledged testing team of its own. Moreover each individual has an infrastructural cost associated with it. Outsourcing testing also helps in reducing the infrastructural cost of the companies.

- **Quality Product on Time:** Due to cut throat competition, every company wants to release quality product quite early in the market. There are cases where it may take weeks or months to handle the project in-house, which may just delay the release of the product, which in turn may lead to huge revenue losses. So it is better to outsource it. A good outsourcing testing company has the capacity and the capability to start working on a new project right away.

- **Risk Reduction:** Each business has a certain amount of risk. Technologies, markets, financial conditions etc, change quite frequently and drastically. Outsourcing companies help mitigate the risk. Since they have an expertise in their field, they have a much better understanding of avoiding the risk.

- **Quick Turnaround Time:** Since traditionally testing is done at the end of the Software Development Life Cycle, there are cases that a delay in the development may leave little or no time for testing. To make most of the available time, experienced heads are required which allows quick turnaround time. Companies are now following a trend where in development and testing team are in different time zones. This helps with quick turnaround times as testing is done in the night on what was developed during the day.

- **Focus on one's expertise:** Every project has limited resources and the manager has to take care of all and sundry. Outsourcing helps the manager in sharing the responsibilities and thus can focus in his area of core competency. Outsourcing could be even around areas of specialization such as performance, security, accessibility, localization testing to name some core ones.

QA InfoTech
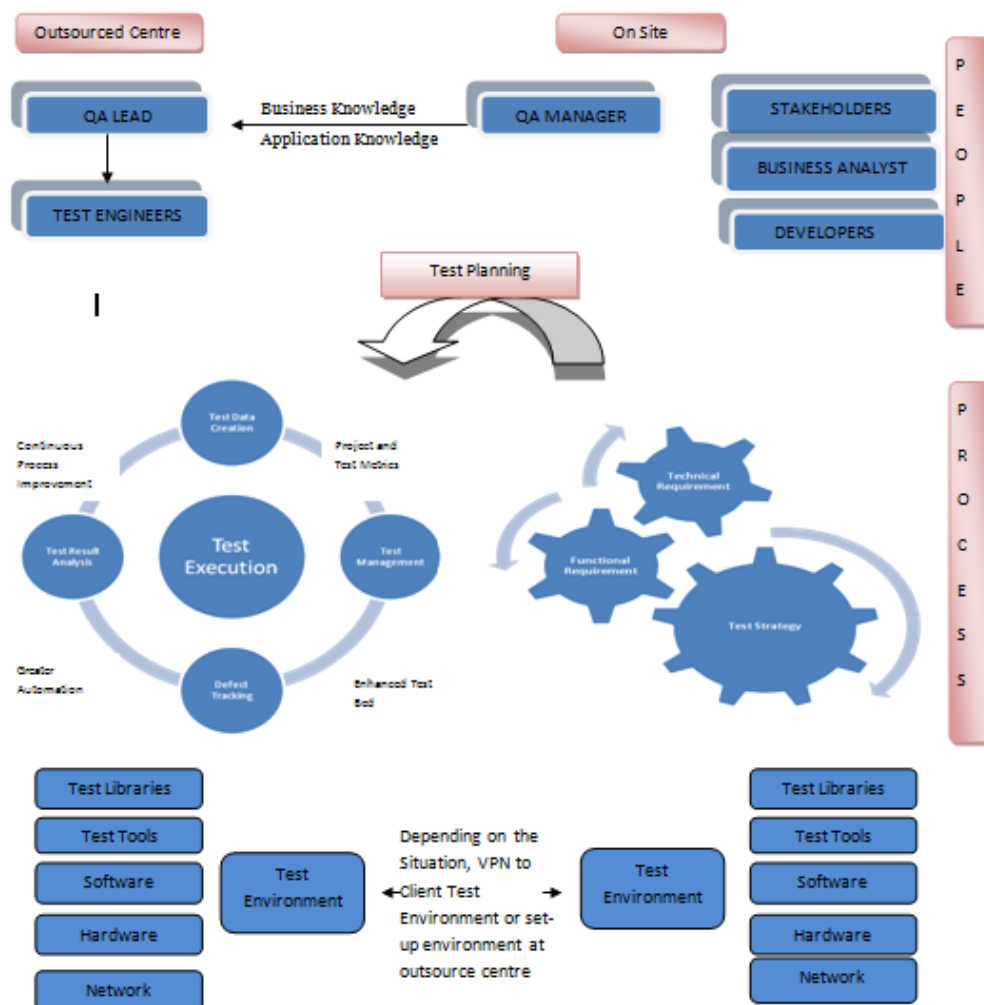
To Summarize:

As every coin has two sides, similarly there are downsides of outsourcing as well. The one which is most prevalent is the communication gap between the parties.

This can easily be overcome if one has sound processes in place and dedicates the right amount of time and resources with an understanding that collaboration is important to succeed.

Someone has well said "If you deprive yourself of outsourcing and your competitors do not, you're putting yourself out of business".

About QA InfoTech

For more information, please:

- Contact us at info@qainfotech.com

- Visit us at www.qainfotech.com

- Read our blog at www.qainfotech.com/blog

- Follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/qainfotech

QA InfoTech is a leading Software Quality Assurance and Testing company specializing in providing independent, unbiased testing services to world class businesses.

QA InfoTech is an ISO 9001:2008, CMMi Level 3 and ISO 20000-1:2005 and ISO 27001:2005 Compliant Company.

Through its wide range of services constituting of functional testing, acceptance testing, localization testing, test automation and performance testing, QA InfoTech has helped many Fortune 500 companies in creating and successfully executing their QA strategy.

At QA InfoTech, we maintain a distinguished level of service which blends top quality with cost effective solutions. The forceful combination of our highly skilled test engineers, domain experts and our investment in latest technologies ensures end to end coverage for our client's products. We bring together best practices and strategies to cater to the unique software testing needs.

Established in 2003, with less than five testing experts, QA InfoTech has grown leaps and bounds with five QA Centers of Excellence in US and India, and more than 600 Testing engineers.

Excellence, Partnership and Commitment are the three hallmarks of the way we approach our clients; we believe you will see this in our service and our expert team.