

MEDIA RELEASE

ISTQB® revamps product portfolio and releases roadmap

Brussels, January 31, 2015

ISTQB® - International Software Testing Qualifications Board, the most popular software testing certification authority in the world, voted on several important motions on the 26th of October in the General Assembly held in Shanghai, China.

“We are witnessing several important trends in testing and there was a need to match new and existing certifications to the market demand”, commented Gualtiero Bazzana, President of ISTQB®.

“We are confident that testers and managers alike will appreciate the investments that ISTQB® is doing to evolve the scheme”, added Geoff Thompson – ISTQB® Secretary and Kari Kakkonen – ISTQB® Treasurer.

Core, Agile and Specialist streams

ISTQB® will continue with existing Foundation, Advanced and Expert modules that will be grouped under the Core stream.

New modules that are more specific in their nature, will be served under the Specialist stream.

“The ISTQB® recognizes the need for vertical syllabi that provide in-depth knowledge of specific topics” said Yaron Tsubery, ISTQB® Vice-President “ and this is why we decided to define a Specialist stream that will group several syllabi that are undergoing development”

Agile methodology related syllabi will be grouped under a dedicated Agile stream.

“The ISTQB® Agile Tester has a very good reception worldwide and we felt that Agile Testing practices deserve a dedicated stream”, says Gualtiero Bazzana, ISTQB® President. “The recently released ISTQB® Survey on SW Testing practices world-wide shows more agile projects starting than all other methodologies combined. Testers need guidance and standards to help organizations deliver quality software in an agile environment.”

New modules planned in Agile stream

Several new modules were approved for development of syllabus and associated documentation. These will serve as basis for training and exam providers worldwide to develop trainings and exams respectively.

Agile stream is to receive two Advanced level syllabi, Technical and Organizational

“Based on the feedback of the existing Agile Foundation Tester we found that testers would like to address technical and organizational testing related challenges found in typical agile projects. We decided to provide a separate syllabus for both needs,” said Rex Black from ASTQB - American Software Testing Qualifications Board, who will be leading the development of the new syllabi.

New syllabi planned in Specialist stream

Several new topics were approved for development of syllabus and associated documentation.

Specialist stream is to get the following new syllabi in the near future.

- Security Tester Advanced Level
- Test Automation Engineer Advanced Level (existing Expert Level syllabus will be re-worked to match the new positioning)
- Automotive Tester Foundation Level, developed in co-operation with the German Testing Board
- Usability Tester Foundation Level, developed in co-operation with the German Testing Board

“We are happy to actively contribute to the development of new syllabi in order to fast track their global adoption” said Armin Metzger, President of German Testing Board

“This is a quantum leap in our product portfolio”, said Gualtiero Bazzana, “we are considering also additional modules, dedicated both to other quality characteristics (e.g. Performance) or application domain. Concerning Security and Test Automation, we decided to position them at Advanced Level in order to make them more accessible to a wider audience”

Pre-conditions to sit in exams

The ISTQB® General Assembly also decided to formalize the pre-requirements for obtaining certifications on different levels as depicted by the summary picture reported at the end of this Press Release.

Obtaining a Foundation Extension (Agile or Model Based Testing) would require a Foundation Level Certification before entering the exam. Advanced Level certifications will also require having an existing Foundation Level certificate by the candidate. Expert Level certificates will need an existing Advanced Level certificate of the respective domain.

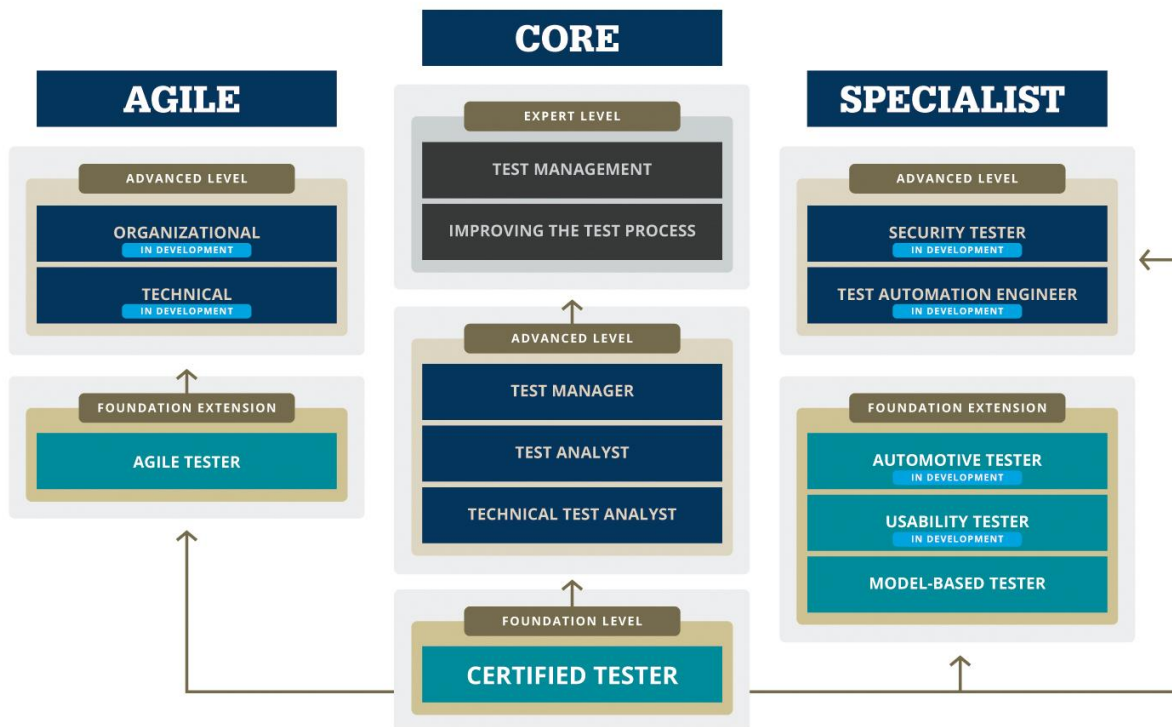
“We have defined clear pre-conditions, so that people can have a clear understanding of the road to follow to get the certifications that better suit their needs”, said the coordinators of the “Pre-conditions Task Force” Graham Bath – German Testing Board and Judy McKay – American Software Testing Board

Evolutionary road-map for ISTQB® Product Portfolio

The General Assembly decisions are summarized in the picture below



Product Portfolio





Media Contact:

Gualtiero Bazzana, ISTQB® President, bazzana@istqb.org

Kaspar Loog, Chair of Marketing Working Group, kaspar.loog@istqb.org

About ISTQB®

The International Software Testing Qualifications Board (ISTQB®) was founded in November 2002 and is a non-profit organization, headquartered in Brussels, Belgium, whose mission is to advance the software testing profession. ISTQB® has defined the "ISTQB® Certified Tester" scheme that has become the world-wide leader in the certification of competences in software testing. It is supported in its mission by 50 member boards. Thanks also to the Global Exam Providers, it has today a world-wide coverage and has issued as of June 2015 over 400.000 certificates

ISTQB® is an organization based on volunteer work by hundreds of software testing experts around the world.