Standard Glossary of Terms Used in Software Testing

Release Notes

Version 3.5

International Software Testing Qualifications Board

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Glossary Working Group: Matthias Hamburg (Chair), Armin Born (Vice-Chair), 2020.

Release Notes

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This new version is a maintenance release. The changes have no impact on any ISTQB® exams or trainings.

Changes have been included based on one of the following reasons:

- Remove non-testing terms that are not keywords in any Syllabus, including requirements engineering terms.
- Align the definitions of terms used in both the ISTQB and the IREB Glossaries, provided they are not keywords in any Syllabus.

The changes are categorized in different change types and listed in separate tables below and are based on the Glossary Principles.

For the references and Syllabus acronyms used, see the Glossary Introduction.

1. Terms renamed

The table below enlists the terms renamed in this release, with possibly changed definitions.

Name	Definition	Old Name	See Also	Reference	Remark
open-source tool	A software tool that is available to all potential users in source code form, usually via the internet. Its users are permitted, usually under license, to study, change, improve and, at times, to distribute the software.	Open source tool			Added a hyphen between open and source. No other change. Some syllabi are spelling the term with hyphen, some without.

2. Terms changed

The table below enlists the terms with changed definitions or other attributes in this release.

Name	Definition	Acronym	See Also	Reference	Remark
cause-effect graph	A graphical representation of logical relationships between inputs (causes) and their associated outputs (effects).				Logical relationships added because it is the main feature.
continuous integration	An automated software development procedure that merges, integrates and tests all changes as soon as they are committed.				Shortened the definition, removed 'process' which was redundant with 'procedure'.
independence of testing	Separation of responsibilities, which encourages the accomplishment of objective testing.			DO-178C	Reference to DO-178B updated to DO-178C. Definition remains unchanged.
modified condition / decision coverage	The coverage of all outcomes of the atomic conditions that independently affect the overall decision outcome.	MC/DC			'single condition' replaced with 'atomic condition'
modified condition / decision testing	A white-box test technique in which test cases are designed to exercise outcomes of atomic conditions that independently affect a decision outcome.				'single condition' replaced with 'atomic condition'
operational acceptance testing	A type of acceptance testing performed to determine if operations and/or systems administration staff can accept a system.				See also reference to operational testing removed. Definition remains unchanged.
test harness	A collection of stubs and drivers needed to execute a test suite.				'A test environment' removed, because a test harness is just a part thereof.

In addition, references to the different parts of the ISO/IEC/IEEE 29119 standard series have been updated. Such updates are not listed in this document. If interested, please see the online report of 'Terms Changed since Date'.

3. Terms removed

The table below lists the names of the terms that have been removed from the Glossary since version 3.4. Most of them are non-testing terms. For such terms, please refer to the Glossaries of the respective subject matter, e.g. [IREB Glossary] for requirements terms.

Name	Remark
application programming interface	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
behavior	Neither a testing term nor a keyword. Refer to the IREB Glossary for a definition.
compiler	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
compound condition	Only used in the CTAL-TA Syllabus and is not a keyword.
condition	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
control flow graph	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
daily build	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
data definition	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
data flow testing	Not relevant for the Syllabi
decision outcome	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
executable statement	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
feature	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
finite state machine	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
functional integration	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
horizontal traceability	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
infeasible path	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
input	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
input value	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
installation wizard	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
integration	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
milestone	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
mind map	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
modeling tool	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
operational environment	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
output	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
pair programming	Neither a testing term nor a keyword

Name	Remark
peak load	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
predicate	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
process reference model	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
protocol	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
pseudo-random	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
safety critical system	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
security tool	Not a keyword. Also, the term security is already defined, so there is no need for the term security tool to be defined in the Glossary.
state table	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
variable	Neither a testing term nor a keyword
Work Breakdown Structure (WBS)	Neither a testing term nor a keyword

4. Synonyms removed

Term Name	Synonym	Remark
Moderator	Inspection leader	A leader is responsible for planning and controlling reviews. Leader and moderator (of a review meeting) are different roles (see also ISO 20246).