

JD Edwards EnterpriseOne Test Automation

A DWS Client Success Story



Client

Nampak is Africa's largest diversified packaging manufacturer. Operating from 51 sites across Africa and Europe, it employs over 5,600 people.



Nampak
packaging excellence



Challenge

Manual execution and documentation of end-to-end functional testing was disruptive, monopolizing technical resources for an extended period of time.



Delivery

Nampak chose to use Dimension SwifTest™ from DWS to automate its JD Edwards EnterpriseOne functional testing.

Nampak also received customized product training and advice from DWS to assist in the running of more efficient projects.



Result

The automation of test scripting and execution enabled Nampak to reduce the overall effort on testing by 60%.

Background

Nampak has a long-established history of investment in Oracle JD Edwards, having first adopted EnterpriseOne Xe back in 2003. Since then, it has undergone a series of major upgrade projects, culminating in the move to 9.2 in the summer of 2017.

Nampak has a total of 1,445 regular JDE users (around 25% of its total workforce), including 3 admins and 16 super users. It runs a modified version of the software, with several custom objects carried over during recent upgrades.

Following their move to get current, Nampak implemented a strategy of continuous adoption and have remained code-current ever since.

“We’ve been working with EnterpriseOne for over 16 years now. As a global manufacturing company, we’ve found that it’s the best fit for our business”.

Why Automation?

Nampak's world-class research and development facility provides technical and innovative product development support to its customers; many of which are among the world's largest fast-moving consumer goods companies.

With a range of complex supply chain and manufacturing processes in place, the manual effort required to effectively carry out functional testing was becoming disruptive to the business.

Each functional area required end-to-end testing, with major projects monopolizing high volumes of resource for an extended period of time.

Accurately documenting these test procedures was also time consuming; often taking longer to complete than the testing itself. As a result, Nampak identified the need to begin automating its testing.

Karana Govender, Sales and Supply Chain Systems Manager for Nampak describes testing in the "bad old days".

"Testing used to be a very labor-intensive process. It was repetitive, it was disruptive and documenting the tests took longer than the testing itself".

"Every functional area required end-to-end testing, as we needed to explore multiple scenarios" explains Karana. "For major upgrade projects this could end up monopolizing the time of up to twenty people for a period of four months, or more"

Why DWS?

Having made the decision to implement test automation, Nampak assessed several solutions before choosing Dimension SwifTest™ from DWS. Karana describes what made DWS stand out from the rest.

"We'd worked with DWS in the past and always found their guidance and expertise exemplary. It's important to know you're in a safe pair of hands."

Having used DWS products in the past, the engagement process for SwifTest was quick and easy. Karana goes on to explain why Nampak chose SwifTest.

"The product was really intuitive. We didn't require any specialist programmers to develop scripts and the reporting and analysis dashboards were excellent. Add to this a competitive price point and it made for a winning formula".



Business Benefits

After receiving customized product training, Nampak were immediately able to realize the benefits of SwifTest, testing business critical processes as well as customizations.

Here, Karana talks to the benefits Nampak have realized since implementing SwifTest: "We've seen a significant reduction in the time and cost associated with testing, with an increase in test coverage and efficiencies. We've also improved the accuracy of our testing by reducing the amount of human intervention".

"The automated tests were 60% faster than manual testing and re-usable test scripts made regressive testing easier."

Since introduction, Nampak has developed a library of over 450 scripts that it is able to access and execute at any time. Scripts can be run and repeated individually or combined to simulate end-to-end workflows.

Test progress can be monitored in real-time and results analyzed in great detail to identify the root cause of any points of failure.

Nampak were also able to eliminate the time required to document tests as the automated reports produced by SwifTest completely replaced this manual process.

The Future

With time having been freed up from Business Analysts, Nampak is keen to refocus this energy towards a strategy of continuous improvement and innovation.

Having upgraded to JD Edwards E1 9.2 in 2017, Nampak plan to remain code-current and adopt the latest functionality, running smaller, faster, smarter projects more regularly.



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Karana Govender,
Sales & Supply Chain Systems Manager, Nampak



About DWS Testing & Quality Management

Since 1998, DWS has been providing software development and technical support to companies who want to customize or extend JD Edwards EnterpriseOne. Our award-winning Dimension Analyze™ service has now assisted more than 150 customers in Europe, Australasia and North America with their JDE EnterpriseOne upgrade projects.

DWS is the trading name of Developing World Systems Limited, which is registered in England and Wales.

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