

**Chat History with [WTANZ 3 \(#marlena.compton/\\$1ac63c2f9b84d2b6\)](#)**

Created on 2010-05-16 20:35:58.

2010-05-16

[Marlena Compton \(WTANZ,AUS\):](#) 18:35:58
Here's the url I just opened: <http://www.skype.com/go/joinpublicchat?skypename=marlena%2ecompton&topic=WTANZ%203&blob=eqUyuUDySiuG3NyfZJwRCP1-vmGdSq1t6293bRL5R3tdrYInC0-2fXwYcVg7iH5vQjeFGv-E9TN4c7C2QA>

[Marlena Compton \(WTANZ,AUS\):](#) 18:36:06
I can just add people as well.

[Marlena Compton \(WTANZ,AUS\):](#) 18:36:22
Hey Keis, can you see this chat?

Oliver Erlewein: 18:37:16
Hey your link doesn't work either

Oliver Erlewein: 18:37:26
people can't get in

[Marlena Compton \(WTANZ,AUS\):](#) 18:37:35
oy

[Marlena Compton \(WTANZ,AUS\):](#) 18:39:26
oh goody, I see people :) Hey guys!

[Ajay Balamurugadas \(WT,India Facilitator\):](#) 18:39:45
Hello <ss type="smile">:)</ss>

Oliver Erlewein: 18:39:47
Hey all.

[Richard Robinson \(WTANZ\):](#) 18:39:52
Ooo, I got moved. Hi every body

[Thomas Recker:](#) 18:39:58
Hey there, now I'm in.

Oliver Erlewein: 18:39:59
I'll just be a minute and try and round up the others....

Keis: 18:41:03
test reply

[Marlena Compton \(WTANZ,AUS\):](#) 18:41:23
Dean is here w00t!

[Thomas Recker:](#) 18:41:31
Cool. Oliver is now adding everybody to the chat?

Oliver Erlewein: 18:41:45
Haven't had a response from him yet though.

[Marlena Compton \(WTANZ,AUS\):](#) 18:42:33
I'm trying to help out Keis who is valiently trying to connect.

Oliver Erlewein: 18:42:44
he needs to update his Skype!

Richard Robinson (WTANZ): 18:43:19
Did anyone do the EWT this w/end?

Thomas Recker: 18:43:21
What version do you need?

Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator): 18:43:30
yes

Richard Robinson (WTANZ): 18:43:37
Ah Ajay. How did it go?

Thomas Recker: 18:43:57
Please help me out. What is EWT?

Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator): 18:44:01
Nice, we had to report to a boss this time too <ss type="wink">)</ss>

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 18:44:02
Keis is on the pc vesion 4.2.0.166 is there a newer one?

Richard Robinson (WTANZ): 18:44:03
WT for Europe

Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator): 18:44:13
European Weekend Testing

Thomas Recker: 18:44:14
Thanks

Richard Robinson (WTANZ): 18:44:28
report to a boss? what do you mean by that?

Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator): 18:44:32
Well, I'm on 4.1

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 18:44:54
@ajay that thickens the plot.

Oliver Erlewein: 18:45:16
Maybe a firewall issue or something.

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 18:45:19
I'm gonna go check the mailbox I set up to make sure we got everyone.

Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator): 18:45:28
Long story Richard, http://weekendtesting.com/archives/1096

Oliver Erlewein: 18:45:54
Anyway, can't see anyone else that is out there.

Oliver Erlewein: 18:46:06
Hope the others will find it...

Oliver Erlewein: 18:46:10
So....

Oliver Erlewein: 18:46:13
Session 03

Oliver Erlewein: 18:46:17
Here we go.

Oliver Erlewein: 18:46:31
As I said in the invite this is a little different.

Oliver Erlewein: 18:46:39
We're going to talk tools

Oliver Erlewein: 18:47:09
Primarily what tools everyone here uses to do their testing or to help them with anything.

Oliver Erlewein: 18:47:23
I noticed that everyone always gets excited about tools

Oliver Erlewein: 18:47:38
So I hope everyone has brought something they can share

Oliver Erlewein: 18:47:50
If not that's not bad either.

Oliver Erlewein: 18:48:16
Depending on time we can also extend this to maybe include useable websites and the such.

Oliver Erlewein: 18:48:44
Maybe we won't go the full two hours but I think this will be a lot of fun.

Oliver Erlewein: 18:48:58
So.... any questions to todays topic?

[Marlena Compton \(WTANZ,AUS\):](#) 18:49:43
Are there some tools you are assuming we have already such as brainz?

[Richard Robinson \(WTANZ\):](#) 18:49:48
Yes - can we extend the discussion to talk about a tool I am trying to locate. Someone might already know one that will fit my requirements. But only if we have time.

Oliver Erlewein: 18:49:58
I am assuming nothing.

Oliver Erlewein: 18:50:14
Well.... ok, assuming grey matter.

Oliver Erlewein: 18:50:17
;-)

Oliver Erlewein: 18:51:06
@Richard: certainly

Oliver Erlewein: 18:52:14
I think I'll give it a start

Oliver Erlewein: 18:52:48
One thing we all need for testing is good screen capture tools

Oliver Erlewein: 18:53:01
and also tools that allow us to manipulate pics.

Oliver Erlewein: 18:53:23
The one I generally use is a tool called IrfanView (irfanview.com)

Oliver Erlewein: 18:53:52
It supports tons of formats and has good screenshot abilities.

Oliver Erlewein: 18:54:05
it doesn't do screen capture films though

[Thomas Recker:](#) 18:54:20
Hah, trouble is quite often you must rely on the OS provided tools because you can't install stuff on your machine.

Oliver Erlewein: 18:54:24

It is extremely small as in footprint

Thomas Recker:

18:54:33

Do you need to install it?

Oliver Erlewein:

18:54:42

Exactly and IrfanView can be used without installing it.

Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator):

18:54:51

wow

Oliver Erlewein:

18:54:54

Windows only (!)

Oliver Erlewein:

18:55:07

And since you raised it....

Keis:

18:55:13

test reply

Oliver Erlewein:

18:55:16

Hi keis

Thomas Recker:

18:55:18

That is what you come around in corporations anyway.

Keis:

18:55:26

Hello :)

Richard Robinson (WTANZ):

18:55:46

Hi Keis, welcome

Thomas Recker:

18:55:50

With Mac OS I'm quite happy with the build in features for screen capture.

Oliver Erlewein:

18:55:56

So, common thing, you're at a pc that doesn't allow you to install anything because you're not local admin.

Oliver Erlewein:

18:56:20

What comes in handy in the world of USB stick apps.

Oliver Erlewein:

18:56:41

like: <http://portableapps.com/apps>

Oliver Erlewein:

18:57:09

Install them to a USB stick on a PC at home or somewhere where you have access.

Richard Robinson (WTANZ):

18:57:23

Oliver, this is a great attribute for a screen capture tool. I think I will go to the website and download it. Its useful to have when moving between clients.

Oliver Erlewein:

18:57:24

then take that USB stick wherever you go and you're fine

Oliver Erlewein:

18:57:44

Have a look at <http://portableapps.com/apps> page

Oliver Erlewein:

18:58:00

there you can see what you can install without needing admin rights.

Oliver Erlewein:

18:58:13

For us of most interest is Firefox.

Oliver Erlewein:

18:58:24

As I will show later.

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 18:58:25
This app called Jing looks like it does videos: <http://www.jingproject.com/>

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 18:59:01
I've heard a co-worker say she really likes using it.

Oliver Erlewein: 18:59:03
Any experience with that?

Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator): 18:59:10
Jing is supported both on Win and Mac

Oliver Erlewein: 18:59:21
There is also SnagIT but that is commercial.

Richard Robinson (WTANZ): 18:59:25
I see Notepad++ there too. Does anyone use np++, and can you tell me if it auto updates if the file is updated... eg a log file

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 18:59:33
I typically use skitch: <http://skitch.com/>

Oliver Erlewein: 18:59:55
Yes, Notepad++ is probably one of the best free editors on windows

Richard Robinson (WTANZ): 19:00:22
Yes, i use SnagIt. But will trial Irfanview.

Oliver Erlewein: 19:00:23
SnagIT: <http://www.techsmith.com/screen-capture.asp>

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 19:00:27
Have you guys ever used videos for bugs before? I've quality reviewed one bug using a video and found it extremely helpful.

Thomas Recker: 19:00:27
For video on a Mac I use iShowU. It can run in a demo mode wiht a watermark inside the video

Oliver Erlewein: 19:01:03
I think Video is more for documenting your tests. i.e. being able to see how a defect occurred

Richard Robinson (WTANZ): 19:01:04
any open source video capture tools out there, that dont require admin?

Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator): 19:01:22
I use Webex Recorder for Video recording. this requires admin priviledge

Oliver Erlewein: 19:01:23
@Thomas: you got a link?

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 19:01:27
@oliver The video was used as a way to show repro steps.

Oliver Erlewein: 19:01:48
@Marlena: ok

Thomas Recker: 19:01:52
iShowU: <http://help.shinywhitebox.com/ishowu>

Richard Robinson (WTANZ): 19:02:15
<-- just added portableapps.com to his favourites :)

Oliver Erlewein: 19:02:17
Hey can you please include links to the software you're talking about? Thanks!

Oliver Erlewein: 19:02:50
There's also a second USB apps thing called Liberkey <http://www.liberkey.com> but I have no experience with it.

Keis: 19:03:05
@marlena video cap is esp helpful when the steps or the effect can't be easily described... so far i've been able to use camstudio (<http://camstudio.org/>)

Oliver Erlewein: 19:04:12
Does anyone here use Video capture to capture whole test sessions?

Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator): 19:04:37
I do and later I delete

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 19:04:38
@keis video somewhat eliminated the need for user to describe what they were doing when the defect happened. Of course, they still had to describe their environment.

Richard Robinson (WTANZ): 19:04:47
nope. I use paint a lot for my image capture. most keyboards have print-screen, and most PCs have paint :p

Thomas Recker: 19:04:52
Nope. Not possible to install.

Oliver Erlewein: 19:04:56
@Ajay: How is that working out for you?

Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator): 19:05:36
I set myself a mission, record, pause, record, stop.

Oliver Erlewein: 19:05:43
@Richard: Booooo! And then you go and paste them in a Word Document right?????!!!! ;-

Keis: 19:05:52
for quick image capture, i used gadwin printscreen. this automatically names the file (sequential) and saves it into a folder. that way i don't have to use printscreen and paste to Paint

Thomas Recker: 19:05:55
@Richard: The problem in my opinion is that you can only capture the whole screen or the active window in Windows.

Oliver Erlewein: 19:06:01
@Ajay: Cool. Gives me hope

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 19:06:05
@Richard paint is the unsung hero of windows IMHO

Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator): 19:07:06
Sometimes, I feel we have to use the tool depending on what the programmer is comfortable with

Oliver Erlewein: 19:07:14
On Linux I tend to use Gimp <http://www.gimp.org/>

Richard Robinson (WTANZ): 19:07:15
@Oliver, yes paste into Word, but sometimes I go all out and paste tiny screen shots into Excel

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 19:07:26
Paint might not be the most sophisticated, but on windows it's always there :P

Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator): 19:07:34
if he ;likes just a screenshot, ms paint helps. Or if he is patient enuf, webex recording helps.

Oliver Erlewein: 19:08:03
As I said, that's why I use IrfanView. Free and available, no local admin. And it's tons better than Paint.

Oliver Erlewein: 19:08:26
Ok. I'll open the next category.... FireFox add-ons

- Richard Robinson (WTANZ):** 19:08:29
As in Agile, I like as many impediments removed, therefore I like Irfanview so far, from this discussion.
- Thomas Recker:** 19:08:45
Another helpful tool for me in my last years testing was IETester. If you need to test IE in old versions that helps.
<http://www.my-debugbar.com/wiki/IETester/HomePage>
- Thomas Recker:** 19:08:55
Opps, not an FF add-on.
- Oliver Erlewein:** 19:09:11
My favourite FF add-on is Live HTTP headers <https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/3829/>
- Oliver Erlewein:** 19:09:28
It shows you HTTP request and response data
- Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator):** 19:09:29
not a FF user <ss type="speechless">:|</ss>
- Richard Robinson (WTANZ):** 19:09:45
Yes, side-by-side comparison. Is there an automatic comparison report from this program? Or is it just user-faciliated visual comparison?
- Oliver Erlewein:** 19:09:55
@Ajay: That's an error. FF is one of the best testing tools out there.
- Oliver Erlewein:** 19:10:28
We have used IE Tester with very bad results at our company
- Thomas Recker:** 19:10:31
I used it for manual visual comparison only so far.
- Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator):** 19:10:33
I know. Learning... would take some time ...
- Oliver Erlewein:** 19:10:41
IETester is not 100% accurate.
- Oliver Erlewein:** 19:10:47
I wish it were different.
- Oliver Erlewein:** 19:11:02
Ok, back to Live HTTP headers
- Keis:** 19:11:11
Fireshot is a Firefox add-on for screen capture. It also allows one to capture the entire page (including those that can only be seen by scrolling down).
- Oliver Erlewein:** 19:11:20
that tool is needed if you a) want to protocol your test execution
- Richard Robinson (WTANZ):** 19:11:40
thats a great feature - to capture the whole page, not just what you can see
- Oliver Erlewein:** 19:11:41
b) read GET/POST requests
- Oliver Erlewein:** 19:11:47
so that you can automate
- Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator):** 19:11:54
<quote author="rocketkeis" conversation="#marlena.compton/\$1ac63c2f9b84d2b6" timestamp="1273993867" authorname="Keis" guid="xe87f29dd9d2845b1e518707f320d7cdd08d62f1ec6c8f2ae2e076f01632529e8"><legacyquote>[12:41:07 PM] Keis:

</legacyquote>It also allows one to capture the entire page (including those that can only be seen by scrolling down).<legacyquote>

<<< </legacyquote></quote>Nice.

Oliver Erlewein:

19:12:33

Next add-on is TamperData <https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/966/>

[Ajay Balamurugadas \(WT,India Facilitator\):](#)

19:12:38

I do a F11, fit into page, then take a snapshot <ss type="sad">:(</ss>

Oliver Erlewein:

19:12:46

Similar to Live HTTP Headers but....

Oliver Erlewein:

19:13:45

it stops requests from being sent and asks you if you'd like to change them

Oliver Erlewein:

19:14:08

that means it is one of the few tools that allows you to easily test backend-verification of websites

[Richard Robinson \(WTANZ\):](#)

19:14:10

oh yes, i love this

[Richard Robinson \(WTANZ\):](#)

19:14:46

great links Oliver

[Marlena Compton \(WTANZ,AUS\):](#)

19:15:04

yes, I'm taking that one away for sure.

Oliver Erlewein:

19:15:07

There is a commercial tool on IE called IEwatch that does a similar thing

Oliver Erlewein:

19:15:28

<http://www.iewatch.com/>

Oliver Erlewein:

19:15:41

but it is \$\$\$

Oliver Erlewein:

19:16:14

Then there is Fangs. <https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/402/>

[Marlena Compton \(WTANZ,AUS\):](#)

19:16:19

So that one's worth the \$\$\$?

Oliver Erlewein:

19:16:48

It's good. I used it but I can get the FF one for free so....

Oliver Erlewein:

19:17:08

Ever tried to do accessibility testing

Oliver Erlewein:

19:17:10

?

Oliver Erlewein:

19:17:17

With Jaws screen reader?

Oliver Erlewein:

19:17:36

For someone that isn't blind that is purgatory (and probably for the blind too)

Oliver Erlewein:

19:18:01

Anyway Fangs shows you a written representation of what the screen reader would read.

Oliver Erlewein:

19:18:19

that is much faster for accessibility testing and much better for your sanity.

Oliver Erlewein:

19:19:11

What I am still looking for is an add-on/program that will check for colour blindness and other disabilities.

[Ajay Balamurugadas \(WT,India Facilitator\):](#)

19:19:43

www.vischeck.com

Oliver Erlewein:

19:20:13

that looks nice. i'll give it a try

Oliver Erlewein:

19:20:20

have you used it?

[Ajay Balamurugadas \(WT,India Facilitator\):](#)

19:20:31

yes

Oliver Erlewein:

19:20:50

Anybody else got some nice plugins for FF?

Oliver Erlewein:

19:21:55

There is also a nice add-on called FireBug, which lets you analyze HTML of a website a bit easier.

<https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/1843/>

[Thomas Recker:](#)

19:22:09

@Ajay: Nice one.

[Marlena Compton \(WTANZ,AUS\):](#)

19:22:32

@oliver you scooped me. Was about to paste that one!

Oliver Erlewein:

19:22:41

And Yslow which is an add-on to the Firebug add-on, which lets you analyze webpages for speed.

<https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/5369/>

Oliver Erlewein:

19:22:51

Sorry Marlena

[Marlena Compton \(WTANZ,AUS\):](#)

19:23:05

@oliver ha! no worries.

Oliver Erlewein:

19:23:13

Yslow is not to be confused with performance testing though.

[Richard Robinson \(WTANZ\):](#)

19:23:14

Yes, I've used FireBug. It's quite good. Although, if you are trying to find out the response time of loading a webpage, it helps if you are outside the corporate domain

[Keis:](#)

19:23:14

@Oliver, i've used that before when i tried to play around with form data. And it's also recommended by my dev friend

[Keis:](#)

19:23:23

(re: Firebug)

Oliver Erlewein:

19:24:14

So....any more add-ons? I think I've run out.

Oliver Erlewein:

19:24:41

Any other IE plug ins or Chrome stuff? I know pretty much nothing about those

[Keis:](#)

19:24:43

anyone tried Web Developer toolbar (FF add-on)

Oliver Erlewein:

19:25:14

@Keis: Yes, that's also good. Especially for finding out form names for automation of tests.

[Ajay Balamurugadas \(WT,India Facilitator\):](#)

19:25:34

@sdhanasekar has a good list of FF add ons.

Oliver Erlewein:

19:26:48

@Ajay: anywhere we can find a list of those?

Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator):

19:27:22

<quote author="ajay184f" conversation="#marlena.compton/\$1ac63c2f9b84d2b6" timestamp="1273994729" authorname="Ajay Balamurugadas" guid="x4bb90e179bfd3fa5b2ab0791d46d2d959b6379b410fdeecb70f91429a788fd13"><legacyquote>[12:55:29 PM] Ajay Balamurugadas: </legacyquote>@sdhanasekar<legacyquote>

<<< </legacyquote></quote> is the twitter id. Dhanasekar S. He uses a lot of FF add ons.

Oliver Erlewein:

19:28:31

Ok. So I think these were the Q&D test aids. What about real tools that do test automation, defect tracking,.... who's brought some of those?

Oliver Erlewein:

19:29:00

i.e. what do you use at work? OSS or commercial?

Richard Robinson (WTANZ):

19:29:00

Test data creation? anyone?

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS):

19:29:17

Well, I work for this company that makes an issue tracker you may have heard of... ;)

Thomas Recker:

19:29:18

Commercial - Quality Center.

Oliver Erlewein:

19:29:24

@Richard: Isn't that called a finger+Excel?

Oliver Erlewein:

19:29:26

;-)

Richard Robinson (WTANZ):

19:29:38

yeah, im trying to move away from that

Richard Robinson (WTANZ):

19:29:42

my finger is getting sore

Oliver Erlewein:

19:29:52

@Marlena: Any good ;-)

Oliver Erlewein:

19:29:55

?

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS):

19:30:18

Forgive me folks...I have to link, I'll just do the one shameless promotion: <http://www.atlassian.com/software/jira/>

Oliver Erlewein:

19:30:33

We've started using Jira at our work and I'm very happy with it.

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS):

19:30:38

Actually, I really like using it.

Oliver Erlewein:

19:31:00

It is commercial but the price is still very acceptable compared to the other contenders.

Richard Robinson (WTANZ):

19:31:18

We use Jira via QualIT

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS):

19:31:20

I've also been using their wiki software. But you don't have to buy commercial wiki software to get benefit from that for testing.

Oliver Erlewein:

19:31:25

We also have a defect tracking system that was built by my company but that is very basic.

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 19:32:08
I've also used Quality Center and bugzilla.

Oliver Erlewein: 19:32:36
We will be getting a new intranet based on Share Point 2010 which will include Wikis but you won't see me jumping for joy. I'd rather stick to mediawiki.

Thomas Recker: 19:32:43
I've used Redmine (<http://www.redmine.org/>). Seems to be very lightweight and easy to handle. But we used it only for small projects.

Oliver Erlewein: 19:33:03
Quality Center is the HP one?!

Thomas Recker: 19:33:09
Yep

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 19:33:14
Yes, it used to be Test Director

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 19:33:27
The win, though, is if you can link from your wiki to your issues.

Thomas Recker: 19:33:31
It feels very heavy and slow.

Oliver Erlewein: 19:33:35
Yes, I have used that too. And Clear Quest.

Oliver Erlewein: 19:33:40
from rational.

Oliver Erlewein: 19:34:01
I do tend to find the bigger commercial products a bit heavy on the whole admin side.

Oliver Erlewein: 19:34:16
That makes them unusable for small and medium sized projects.

Oliver Erlewein: 19:34:35
bugzilla is a nice free one. Justnot much polish on it.

Thomas Recker: 19:34:36
Ok, thanks for all the new tolls. Unfortunatenately I have to leave now

Thomas Recker: 19:34:46
See you around enxt time. Bye.

Oliver Erlewein: 19:34:49
cu Thomas

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 19:34:52
I also tried using docuwiki with James Bach's lo-tech testing dashboard, and liked it.

vvchamala: 19:34:53
tx thomas...

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 19:34:57
bye Thomas

Oliver Erlewein: 19:35:15
@Marlena: Haven't tried it yet, might give it a run.

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 19:35:30
Here's a blog post where I friend of mine used that: <http://www.testthisblog.com/2007/12/build-day-low-tech-dashboard.html>

Oliver Erlewein: 19:35:46
Wikis in general are nice for test documentation but I do get confronted by other testers that don't seem to like it.

[Marlena Compton \(WTANZ,AUS\):](#) 19:35:55
It was just enough structure without being too much. And if it's in a wiki you can tailor to your situation.

[Marlena Compton \(WTANZ,AUS\):](#) 19:36:22
@Oliver any reason why they don't like it?

Oliver Erlewein: 19:37:05
Honestly I think it's change that they don't like.

Oliver Erlewein: 19:37:23
Ok. So let's get on with talking about more tools.

Oliver Erlewein: 19:37:49
When i want to find tools I always start here: <http://www.opensourcetesting.org>

Oliver Erlewein: 19:38:12
There you probably find the single most complete list of open source testing tools.

[Ajay Balamurugadas \(WT,India Facilitator\):](#) 19:38:25
http://testertools.com/

Oliver Erlewein: 19:38:29
Who has used it before?

[Richard Robinson \(WTANZ\):](#) 19:39:08
<http://www.sourceforge.net> also has a bunch of stuff

Oliver Erlewein: 19:39:19
@Ajay: Cool, didn't know that one. All free and open source or also commercial?

Oliver Erlewein: 19:39:49
@Richard: sure but not sorted by theme I believe?!

[Ajay Balamurugadas \(WT,India Facilitator\):](#) 19:40:02
mostly open source

Oliver Erlewein: 19:40:06
ok

[Ajay Balamurugadas \(WT,India Facilitator\):](#) 19:40:27
www.testersdesk.com

Oliver Erlewein: 19:41:09
Oohhh Ajay, that looks interesting....

Oliver Erlewein: 19:42:03
Ok, there's Jamses' Pairwise in action....

Oliver Erlewein: 19:42:51
The tools I constantly use for performance testing is JMeter. It is a java based tool and can be used very easily to build huge tests

Oliver Erlewein: 19:43:03
JMeter: <http://jakarta.apache.org/jmeter/index.html>

Oliver Erlewein: 19:43:26
I've used it for 5 years now and have done dozens of projects with it.

[Marlena Compton \(WTANZ,AUS\):](#) 19:43:28
That gets a lot of heavy use where I work as well.

Oliver Erlewein: 19:43:54

Like with most Open Source perf test tools it is a little light on the graphing side

Oliver Erlewein: 19:44:06

but nothing excel or scripts can't solve

Oliver Erlewein: 19:44:26

It can totally keep up with all commercial tools out there that cost tons of \$\$\$

Oliver Erlewein: 19:44:58

Grinder is also good but last time I looked it didn't have a GUI interface.

Oliver Erlewein: 19:45:41

For test automation we use Watir in a big style. <http://watir.com/>

Oliver Erlewein: 19:45:59

Automation IE through a Ruby API

Oliver Erlewein: 19:46:46

What do you use for test automation?

[Richard Robinson \(WTANZ\):](#) 19:47:17

Eh, excel macros at the moment

Oliver Erlewein: 19:47:41

How do you do test automation with Excel?

[Richard Robinson \(WTANZ\):](#) 19:48:18

I load up my valid and invalid data. the sheet handles the test case data sets. then a macro will write each data set to a text file. the file is then pushed into the system.

Oliver Erlewein: 19:48:44

Ah ok. That sounds good.

[Richard Robinson \(WTANZ\):](#) 19:48:54

then the report is spat out the system at the end. and the results are read back into the spreadsheet and compared to the expected results. eg. error code matching

Oliver Erlewein: 19:49:16

Such things are commonly the easiest through Excel or Access or similar

[Richard Robinson \(WTANZ\):](#) 19:49:44

yes, but i want to find a tool that will help me create my test case data sets.

[Richard Robinson \(WTANZ\):](#) 19:50:04

as they get quite large to maintain

Oliver Erlewein: 19:50:21

@Vishnu: what about you? What's your favourite test tool

Oliver Erlewein: 19:50:23

?

[Keis:](#) 19:50:43

@Richard That sounds interesting... i use excel for preparing my flatfiles (with copy+paste) but mine doesn't go to the point wherein it interacts with the system

[Richard Robinson \(WTANZ\):](#) 19:51:16

im happy to share my macro with you. its quite simple. but the report macro hasnt been developed as yet.

Oliver Erlewein: 19:51:41

There are tools out there that do such stuff on a grand scale but they are usually very expensive.

Oliver Erlewein: 19:51:58

I think there's one called Prince or something

Oliver Erlewein: 19:52:26

don't even know if they are still around. Last time I saw one of those was 2000 or 1999

[Richard Robinson \(WTANZ\):](#) 19:52:27

yeah thats what im finding. im on the search for some nice small simple ones, that can take boundary value inputs, field dependencies, and produce a set of data files

[Keis:](#) 19:52:52

@Richard cool! I'd really want to check out that excel macro :)

[Richard Robinson \(WTANZ\):](#) 19:53:21

@Keis, ok

[Richard Robinson \(WTANZ\):](#) 19:53:56

The input is my analysis, and the output is multiple sets of data. it could relate to anything - form data, web form data,

[Marlena Compton \(WTANZ,AUS\):](#) 19:55:04

@Richard if you're on the New Zealand software testers list, that might make an excellent post.

[Oliver Erlewein:](#) 19:55:13

Good for comparing data is <http://winmerge.org/>

[Marlena Compton \(WTANZ,AUS\):](#) 19:55:25

Oh yeah, diff tools!

[Keis:](#) 19:55:31

@Oliver, that's what I use as well :)

[Oliver Erlewein:](#) 19:56:00

Well I actually use "diff a.txt b.txt | grep" ;-)

[Oliver Erlewein:](#) 19:56:21

My biggest testing tool is actually <http://www.ubuntu.com/>

[Richard Robinson \(WTANZ\):](#) 19:56:22

@Marlena - yes, good point! I will do that

[Richard Robinson \(WTANZ\):](#) 19:56:27

thanks

[Oliver Erlewein:](#) 19:56:54

Unix offers a heap of stuff that allows you to process and verify data.

[Marlena Compton \(WTANZ,AUS\):](#) 19:57:19

@Oliver yes! and I use a lot of that stuff on the mac as well.

[Oliver Erlewein:](#) 19:58:03

Also worth mentioning is <http://www.virtualbox.org>

[Oliver Erlewein:](#) 19:58:21

for virtualisation of test environments especially for browser testing

[Marlena Compton \(WTANZ,AUS\):](#) 19:59:14

win merge looks like a does a great visual diff.

[Ajay Balamurugadas \(WT,India Facilitator\):](#) 19:59:48

Its simple and quick.

[Oliver Erlewein:](#) 19:59:50

Yes indeed.

[Marlena Compton \(WTANZ,AUS\):](#) 20:00:00

Seems like I've used that before. Stuff like this comes in handy when I'm checking that devs did actually change stuff.

[Oliver Erlewein:](#) 20:00:32

If you just need some unix capabilities on Windows try using cygwin (<http://www.cygwin.com/>). That's heaps of fun too.

Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator): 20:00:46
ok.

Keis: 20:01:06
@oliver, i downloaded that when i was trying to learn unix commands :D

Oliver Erlewein: 20:01:07
What about selenium? Anyone using it here?

Oliver Erlewein: 20:01:26
seleniumhq.org

Oliver Erlewein: 20:01:43
I am keen to but can't find the time

Keis: 20:01:45
Re: Selenium, that's something i actually want to try out. I've downloaded the selenium IDE for firefox before

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 20:01:54
@keis have you played with dos commands? those are fun too.

Oliver Erlewein: 20:02:12
@Keis: ignore that FF thing that's just a record and playback

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 20:02:28
Actually that helps to learn syntax

Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator): 20:02:35
<quote author="olivernz" conversation="#marlena.compton/\$1ac63c2f9b84d2b6" timestamp="1273996928" authorname="Oliver Erlewein" guid="x491bdbde074eea0a627b28fbcfc448032128e21cf09f0987c6d35cb2d5c7b70"><legacyquote>[1:32:08 PM] Oliver Erlewein: </legacyquote> ignore that FF thing<legacyquote>
<<< </legacyquote></quote>?

Keis: 20:02:38
@oliver, yeah... is Selenium RC better?

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 20:02:56
I had success with using the record and play feature, then getting code to use with TestNG

Oliver Erlewein: 20:03:00
Selenium RC is the real thing.

Oliver Erlewein: 20:03:19
@Marlena: TestNG?

Keis: 20:03:36
@Marlena, i know only a few DOS commands... anything particularly nifty that u've used?

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 20:03:42
Yes...it's for doing unit tests, but you can use it with selenium

Oliver Erlewein: 20:03:55
Ok, good tip

Oliver Erlewein: 20:04:26
@Keis: dos is too weak for anything constructive. Have a look at Unix & cygwin. That'll get you farther.

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 20:04:29
@keis I did some poking around in the help and found an awesome guide to dos commands in windows.

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 20:04:51
Oliver has a good point though.

Keis: 20:05:04

@marlena still, maybe those could be helpful for making a .bat file ?

Keis: 20:05:07

:D

Oliver Erlewein: 20:05:17

The new windows shell is supposed to be good but I haven't tried it. Too happy with bash & co.

Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator): 20:05:29

<quote author="marlena.compton" conversation="#marlena.compton/\$1ac63c2f9b84d2b6" timestamp="1273997064" authorname="Marlena Compton" guid="xcb40c4050ff6ea43873fc3de2903af346da3460ecb81692067d1c7a44bbf9362"><legacyquote>[1:34:24 PM] Marlena Compton: </legacyquote> in the help and found an awesome guide to dos commands<legacyquote>

<<< </legacyquote></quote>Help of which app Marlena?

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 20:05:35

Oh yeah...and it's good to know that stuff. Sometimes it can be very helpful even it it doesn't have the same power as unix

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 20:05:50

It's the OS help

Oliver Erlewein: 20:05:51

What I'm grateful for is knowing some Ruby and Python so I can script my way out of a data-hole.

Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator): 20:06:01

oh ok.

Oliver Erlewein: 20:06:12

@Richard: That would probably also be the next step for you after Excel.

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 20:06:20

If you go to Windows help through the start (?) menu, and type dos, you might get it.

Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator): 20:06:43

Thanks.

Oliver Erlewein: 20:07:03

Anybody ever come accross any Tets Management tools? Non commercial I mean?

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 20:07:16

Docuwiki...ftw!

Oliver Erlewein: 20:08:01

The french seem to have something called Salome

Oliver Erlewein: 20:08:20

Tried it and it's not half bad but doesn't quite fit what I want.

vvchamala: 20:08:25

@Marlena: just type help at command shell

Richard Robinson (WTANZ): 20:08:43

@Oliver: whats the next step? Ruby on Python?

Richard Robinson (WTANZ): 20:08:49

*and

Oliver Erlewein: 20:09:29

@Richard: I meant translating your excel stuff into either Ruby or Python if that gives you any advantage

Oliver Erlewein: 20:10:25

I've just started on a Scrum/Agile project as a tester. Any cool tools to support SBT or other agile testing methods?

Keis: 20:10:38

Re: wiki, i use a personal wiki (from tiddlywiki.com) for notes... it's a single file so it's easy to transfer / maintain

Oliver Erlewein: 20:10:47

Over and above what James B has?

Keis: 20:11:10

i haven't tried out Docuwiki though...

Richard Robinson (WTANZ): 20:11:13

SOAPUI seems pretty good. You can harness in files if your infrastructure allows it.

Richard Robinson (WTANZ): 20:11:26

You can test each component in the early stages of agile, when they are not all connected

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 20:11:48

@keis I think a lot of the wikis have fairly similar basic functionality. Someone installed docuwiki at work so that's why I used it.

Oliver Erlewein: 20:12:05

@Keis: That's what I was looking for! Thanks!!!

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 20:12:20

@keis and that's what I paired with JB's lo-tech testing dashboard to get away from Quality Center.

Keis: 20:13:12

@Oliver, there's also wiki-on-a-stick ... <http://stickwiki.sourceforge.net/>

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 20:13:36

@Oliver my employer has an agile plugin but I said I'd only do one shameless self-promotion. Oops... <http://www.atlassian.com/software/greenhopper/>

Oliver Erlewein: 20:14:25

@Marlena: You're allowed to do promotion in this event.

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 20:14:38

Thanks cuz I really can't help myself ;)

Oliver Erlewein: 20:14:50

@Marlena: Nice but won't help me as this is on site for customer.

Oliver Erlewein: 20:14:59

I can give him a link though ;-)

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 20:15:13

I'm interested in this stickwiki thing.

Oliver Erlewein: 20:15:34

@Marlena: Serves me right for not reading.....thanks!

Oliver Erlewein: 20:17:41

We're nearly at the end of our time. Any more tools or requests?

Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator): 20:18:06

Hmmm, just adding one tool. <http://ccollomb.free.fr/unlocker/>

Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator): 20:18:38

Freemind http://freemind.sourceforge.net/wiki/index.php/Main_Page

Oliver Erlewein: 20:18:43

Looks interesting and useful!

Oliver Erlewein: 20:19:00

Yess, forgot about freemind

Oliver Erlewein: 20:19:09

Oh and....

[Ajay Balamurugadas \(WT,India Facilitator\):](#) 20:19:15

Very often, while testing, we are unable to delete and Unlocker helps.

Oliver Erlewein: 20:19:26

A camera or camera phone and a USB stick

[Ajay Balamurugadas \(WT,India Facilitator\):](#) 20:19:29

I did try the trial versions of Inspiration, Novamind

Oliver Erlewein: 20:19:36

There are errors you cannot screenshot!

[Ajay Balamurugadas \(WT,India Facilitator\):](#) 20:19:41

They are nice too.

[Marlena Compton \(WTANZ,AUS\):](#) 20:19:55

@oliver you mean you take pictures!

Oliver Erlewein: 20:20:00

MindMapper is also good but \$\$\$\$

[Ajay Balamurugadas \(WT,India Facilitator\):](#) 20:20:02

<quote author="olivernz" conversation="#marlena.compton/\$1ac63c2f9b84d2b6" timestamp="1273997971" authorname="Oliver Erlewein" guid="x2f0a878d819ad5bb1e60d1dda798b78d6be0af4ff0661e6aa150354606007021"><legacyquote>[1:49:31 PM] Oliver Erlewein: </legacyquote>There are errors you cannot screenshot!<legacyquote>

<<< </legacyquote></quote>Agree, how do you deal that?

[Richard Robinson \(WTANZ\):](#) 20:20:19

the one we covered in WT35 was interesting: <http://www.prezi.com> - you can create mind maps and turn them into presentations and share online. very cool

Oliver Erlewein: 20:20:20

@Marlena: Yess pictures of bluescreens and the such

[Ajay Balamurugadas \(WT,India Facilitator\):](#) 20:20:26

mobile camera ?

[Marlena Compton \(WTANZ,AUS\):](#) 20:20:54

I love prezi. Used it to make a prezo of WT.

Oliver Erlewein: 20:21:15

Have to take a look at that.

[Richard Robinson \(WTANZ\):](#) 20:21:15

yes it has a Mac feel to it

[Ajay Balamurugadas \(WT,India Facilitator\):](#) 20:21:15

WT35 inspiration was Marlena's prezo

[Ajay Balamurugadas \(WT,India Facilitator\):](#) 20:21:17

<ss type="smile">:)</ss>

[Richard Robinson \(WTANZ\):](#) 20:21:29

ahhhhh :) well done Marlena

[Keis:](#) 20:21:39

cool :)

[Marlena Compton \(WTANZ,AUS\):](#) 20:21:42

oh...I'm so busted! I haven't read that. I'll go take a look at it for sure now ;)

[Marlena Compton \(WTANZ,AUS\):](#) 20:22:02

jeez...my face is 5 shades of red right now.

[Ajay Balamurugadas \(WT,India Facilitator\):](#)

20:22:07

It will be up on Wednesday

[Richard Robinson \(WTANZ\):](#)

20:22:17

I cant wait :)

[Richard Robinson \(WTANZ\):](#)

20:22:18

:p

[Ajay Balamurugadas \(WT,India Facilitator\):](#)

20:22:24

TWITTER - How good a tool it is?

[Marlena Compton \(WTANZ,AUS\):](#)

20:22:28

I bet you guys had fun with Prezi. I noticed it had a few bugs.

[Richard Robinson \(WTANZ\):](#)

20:22:57

Yep, it was a fun, but unstable-at-times web app. overall im in love with it.

[Oliver Erlewein:](#)

20:23:00

TWITTER has given me nearly too much input from other people.

[Oliver Erlewein:](#)

20:23:02

;-)

[Ajay Balamurugadas \(WT,India Facilitator\):](#)

20:23:37

few quick questions, info would be highly appreciated.

[Marlena Compton \(WTANZ,AUS\):](#)

20:23:41

I think there must be a story in the fact that Prezi has some problems, but it's still so lovable.

[Oliver Erlewein:](#)

20:23:44

But I think I finally got the hang of twittering

[Ajay Balamurugadas \(WT,India Facilitator\):](#)

20:24:09

1. How do you keep your Tool repository - up to date? Go in search of tools or is it need based.

[Marlena Compton \(WTANZ,AUS\):](#)

20:24:14

Twitter can be overwhelming. I got to a point where I realized I just can't follow everyone in testing.

[Oliver Erlewein:](#)

20:24:31

@jay: depends on the tool.

[Ajay Balamurugadas \(WT,India Facilitator\):](#)

20:24:47

2. I want to learn few tools to assist and then get interested in some other tools. how do you manage to focus?

[Oliver Erlewein:](#)

20:24:53

Watir we're stuck on a version because upgrading breaks some of our tests :(

[Ajay Balamurugadas \(WT,India Facilitator\):](#)

20:25:28

Autoit - <http://www.autoitscript.com/autoit3/index.shtml>

[Oliver Erlewein:](#)

20:25:54

Yes, Autoit is also being used for some stuff by Watir

[Oliver Erlewein:](#)

20:26:20

But as an automated testing tool a bit cumbersome

[Keis:](#)

20:26:46

@Ajay... i think for me it depends more on what i need to do. Occasionally, i come across tools mentioned / shared by others (thru blogs, twitter, friends), and if it seems like something i could use later on, i note it down to check it out later.

[Ajay Balamurugadas \(WT,India Facilitator\):](#)

20:27:14

Thanks, I too have a folder: S/w to explore...

Oliver Erlewein: 20:27:41
Yeah, I think the best thing to have is a rough knowledge of what tools do so that when you get into the thick of it you know where to turn.

Oliver Erlewein: 20:27:56
and that was my reasoning behind this session.

Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator): 20:28:14
wireshark

Oliver Erlewein: 20:28:30
Needed for performance testing analysis

Oliver Erlewein: 20:28:39
as is the Windows tool perfmon

Oliver Erlewein: 20:29:03
or top, iftop, iotop, ps,.... under unix

Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator): 20:29:14
Perclip <ss type="wink">)</ss> AllPairs

Oliver Erlewein: 20:29:20
lol

Oliver Erlewein: 20:29:26
was waiting for that

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 20:30:01
on twitter you might like to follow @cgoldberg who is into performance testing. He writes performance testing tools for fun: <http://code.google.com/p/multi-mechanize/>

Oliver Erlewein: 20:30:17
Ok. I want to start wrapping up. Can we have a quick round the table on if this was a useful session for you and aybe what you'd like to see in some of the future sessions?

Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator): 20:30:54
EXCELLENT session. I liked every minute and all the 68 links posted

Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator): 20:31:46
ok not 68

Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator): 20:31:50
40

Ajay Balamurugadas (WT,India Facilitator): 20:31:52
<ss type="smile">:</ss>

Keis: 20:31:55
Enjoyed it as well... a lot of take-aways for me in this session :)

Oliver Erlewein: 20:32:23
Any wishes for future sessions?

Marlena Compton (WTANZ,AUS): 20:32:26
It's like Tester Christmas in May. Santa has come early.

Oliver Erlewein: 20:32:43
lol

Oliver Erlewein: 20:33:01
Yes, I learnt quite a bit too. Sort of turned out like I hoped.

Oliver Erlewein: 20:33:04
:-D

- [Ajay Balamurugadas \(WT,India Facilitator\):](#)** 20:33:12
Ha ha... Pick up a tool and an expert guides the exploration of the tool
- [Richard Robinson \(WTANZ\):](#)** 20:33:46
Thanks everyone for sharing. I think it is important to hear the popular tools that people are using. And not all were testing tools either.
- [Richard Robinson \(WTANZ\):](#)** 20:34:10
My work bag is going to be so full of these tools tomorrow
- [Richard Robinson \(WTANZ\):](#)** 20:34:15
s
- [Ajay Balamurugadas \(WT,India Facilitator\):](#)** 20:34:36
Thanks Oliver, Marlena, Richard
- Oliver Erlewein:** 20:34:41
I will start using the portable Wikis above. How cool.
- [Ajay Balamurugadas \(WT,India Facilitator\):](#)** 20:34:48
It was a great session. Lots of take away for me.
- Oliver Erlewein:** 20:34:50
Thank you all.
- [vvchamala:](#)** 20:35:03
me too guys, tx fr sharing info on tools..
- Oliver Erlewein:** 20:35:05
I'll herewith end the "official" session and cut the log. ;-)