



A. S. G. (DATA MANAGEMENT SOLUTION SPECIALISTS) CASE STUDY

How We Help Agile Teams Improve Collaboration,
Enhance Project Reporting, and Save On Legacy Licence Costs



Introduction

At Test Management Systems, we specialise in the implementation of test management and test automation solutions for agile development teams. We help companies like yours escape from expensive legacy software solutions. We help you migrate to agile solutions that can help you save significantly on licencing costs and increase productivity.

In this case study we'll go through the system we use for these migrations. We'll also walk you through a case study showing the results we've generated for one of our clients.

If you would like to find out how our migration system can work for your business please contact us at:

hello@testmanagement.com or
+44 208 144 4211 (Europe/USA)



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



CHALLENGE:

ASG needed to improve agile team collaboration. Developers working in one project tracking tool and testers working in a different tool. All this meant a lack of collaboration and poor release readiness visibility. ASG could see the benefit of having everyone working within a single software project management tool. They just couldn't see a clear way to migrate off their legacy test management tool set.



SOLUTION:

Test Management Systems set about defining a migration process to move their test teams off their legacy Application Lifecycle tool set. We set about designing and delivering a bespoke migration and training package to support a move to a tool set that supported a more collaborative way of working.



RESULTS:

- Enhanced visibility and traceability within Agile Sprints
- Improved collaboration between developers and testers
 - Increased efficiency through process and workflow enhancements
 - Consistent and integrated cross project reporting
- Significant year-on-year savings on licence costs



The MIG System

Migrate - Integrate - Galvanise

When embarking on a data migration projects for test management systems we follow our 'MIG' (Migrate, Integrate and Galvanise) system.

This system has been developed by Test Management Systems to ensure a fast, reliable and an effective migration process for your teams. There's also the opportunity to secure significant enhancements to your process and reporting capabilities, as well as removing expensive legacy licence costs.

The main migration barrier, for most companies, is the perceived disruption during the migration. You can avoid that disruption with our 'MIG' migration system where we'll do all the heavy lifting (data migrations), overnight switchovers (to avoid down time) and reporting enhancements.

Migration interruptions, learning a new system or inaccurate data exports/imports all waste time. The system we've developed is designed to minimise interruptions and maximise a team's productivity. There are 15 parts (some optional) to the MIG system:

PHASE 1 ASSESSMENT and SPECIFICATION

1. Data Assessment
2. Process & Workflow Assessment
3. Tool selection & configuration
4. Target system comparison/compatibility
5. Migration approach specification
6. Proof of Concept

PHASE 2 TRAINING and PLANNING

7. Migration approach enhancements
8. Reporting requirements definition
9. Training
10. Migration Run-Script definition
11. Migration project plan

PHASE 3 MIGRATION and SUPPORT

12. Data Extract and Cleansing
13. Phased Project Migrations (overnight or weekend)
14. Support
15. Audit and Backup

Now that we've covered the system and approach - let's take an example and see how we've executed on this.



ASG Case Study

70 Testers - 34 Active Projects - Teams in 5 Countries

ASG is a Global Enterprise Software vendor providing solutions for some of the world's largest businesses. ASG is the solutions provider for both Information Management and IT Systems Management. Their solutions, capture, manage, govern, and enable companies to understand and support all types of information.

Agile teams positioned in continents all over the Globe. Scrum Masters, Business Analysts and Developers all working in Jira. Testers out on a limb working in a legacy test case management tool.

The limitations of working with a legacy test management tools were clear to see:

- Limited reporting capabilities
- Lack of traceability
- Inefficiencies maintaining multiple tools
- Poor levels of collaboration
- No overall release readiness reporting

ASG knew they needed to migrate and integrate. The challenge was how to migrate when they had over 10 years of data and collateral stored in a legacy Solution.

The Challenge

Improve agile team collaboration, enhance cross project reporting and reduce legacy Application Lifecycle Management licence costs.

The challenges ASG were up against:

1. Testers and Developers Using Different Tools: ASG needed everyone in their Agile teams, including the testers, working within a single tool. They knew that the lack of an integrated tool set meant limited collaboration. Limited collaboration that slowed down releases and left significant quality gaps.

2. Restricted Reporting Capabilities: The problem with working in different tool sets is that it's difficult to deliver effective release readiness reports. This combined with different data structures in every project meant it was almost impossible to get consistent cross project reporting and metrics.

3. Expensive Legacy Licence Costs: Traditional Application Lifecycle tools were not only a poor fit for Agile projects but the global licencing model was expensive. There were clearly significant savings to be made in moving to a better solution.



What ASG needed was a solution that integrated with existing development and agile tools. A solution that not only promoted collaboration but reduced their yearly global licencing costs.

More than this, there was significant resistance from some teams. Teams working at full capacity that couldn't risk any down time. Yet there was an opportunity here too. An opportunity to simplify workflows, standardise the data being captured and deliver consistent cross project Reporting.

How to migrate to a new system and not lose decades worth of data accumulated in their legacy system? And how could they avoid any down time whilst they completed a migration?





The Solution

Implement a proven test management solution, integrated with existing tool sets. Migrate data from the existing legacy Application Lifecycle tool set. Deliver online bespoke training to support the switch over. Undertake data cleansing exercise to enable consistent cross project reporting.

PHASE 1 ASSESSMENT and SPECIFICATION

Our MIG migration process starts with the Assessment and Specification phase.

It's about assessing feasibility and defining the approach. Proving the approach to ensure that the perceived benefits of a migration are going to be realised. With that initial assessment complete it's down to the nuts and bolts defining the migration options and approach. From here the Proof of Concept project demonstrates and validates that approach.



PHASE 2 TRAINING and PLANNING

Once the Proof of Concept has been completed there's always scope to assess what can be improved. This could be further data cleansing, additional tweaks to workflow definitions or re-evaluating the types of artefacts to migrate. Sometimes it's just about feeding lessons learnt into the training sessions being developed. This phase is all about planning and preparing for the migration. With everything in place it's time to start the migrations.



PHASE 3 MIGRATION and SUPPORT

Each project migration was scheduled for an overnight data migration or where there were large data sets a weekend migration. This ensured that there would be no down time. Minimising downtime was critical for the QA and Agile teams that were so dependent on their test management tool set. As each project was migrated our team was on hand to provide support as ASG's testers ramped up the usage of their new test management solution.



The Result

61,023 test cases
migrated

3,120 test sets
migrated

17,137 attachments
migrated

70 globally distributed testers migrated

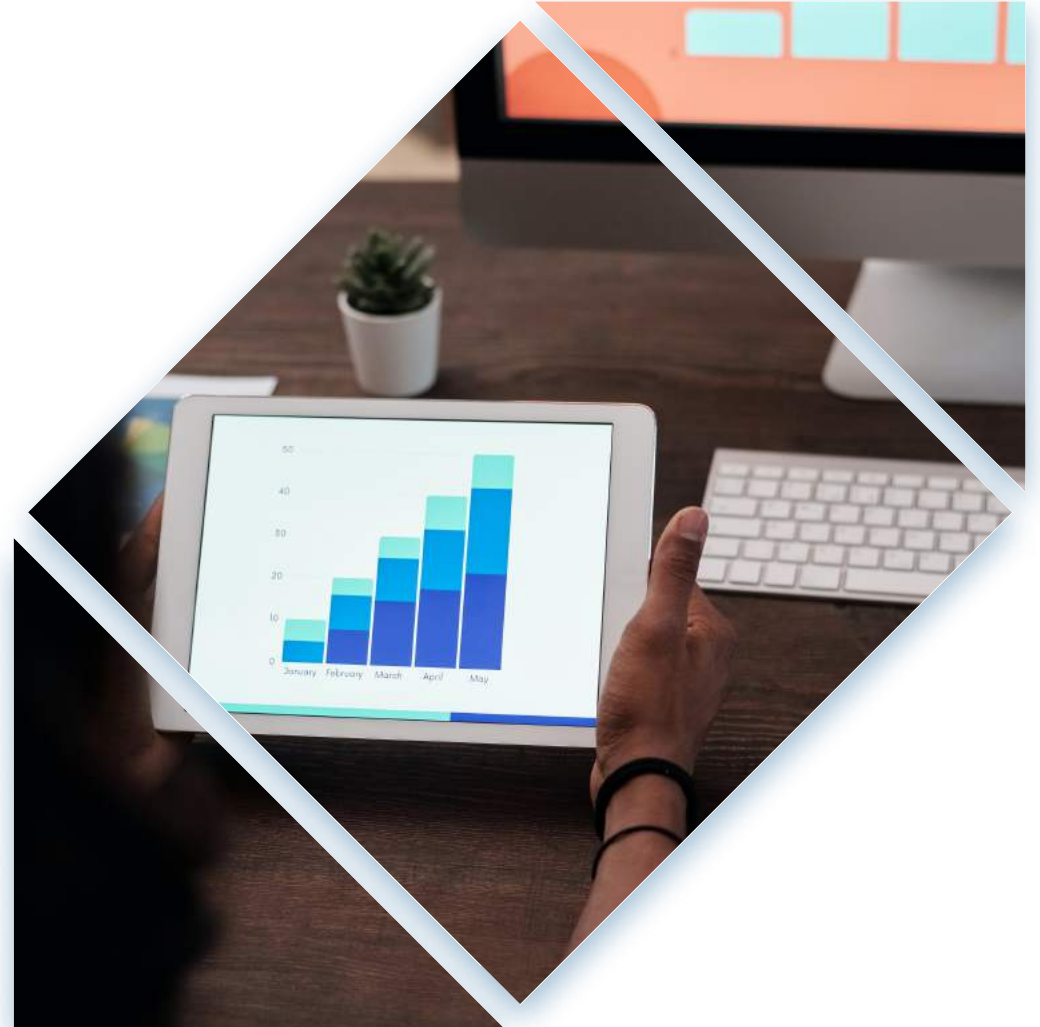
£20,000 (approx) year on year savings in software licence costs

NO downtime

We set about delivering significant cost savings for ASG. Saving costs whilst enhancing their test management process, delivering an integrated solution and improving their agile teams efficiency.

Not only was this an opportunity to significantly reduce licence costs - it was also an opportunity to streamline processes, increase levels of data consistency across projects and deliver consistent reporting across multiple projects.

There was a clear RoI in terms of licence costs saved. Yet there was also the ongoing savings with streamlined business processes and optimized data sets for reporting.





Ready to save on expensive legacy licencing costs?

If you're ready to save significantly on licence costs each year and benefit from:

- Enhanced visibility and traceability within Agile Sprints
- Improved collaboration between developers and testers
- Consistent and integrated cross project reporting

Then we'd love to help.

All you need to do is contact us at

hello@testmanagement.com

or call us on

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Then we can organise time for a short 'Business Case' development session. In this session we'll work together to assess the feasibility of a migration and identify what sort of savings you can expect. If the potential is there to save you money on licence costs and deliver an improved test management process then we'll draft a business case for you - free of charge.

We look forward to talking with you soon.



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