CAMPUS EXPLORER REDUCES TESTING TIME FROM 72 HOURS TO 72 MINUTES

CAMPUS EXPLORER

Industry:
Internet

Company Size:
51–200

SUMMARY

- Having previously used QTP, Campus Explorer Senior QA Engineer Sage Rimal moved to Selenium to save money, increase quality by testing across all browsers, and engage with an open source community for better support.

- After being brought on to Campus Explorer, Sage introduced the team to Sauce Labs.

- By outsourcing their Selenium Grid and VMs, Campus Explorer reduced the amount of time it took to test from 72 hours to 72 minutes. Paired with other time saving features such as team collaboration, continuous testing, and videos from the Sauce dashboard, Campus Explorer increased the quality of employee lives as well as the quality of the site.

"With Sauce, I reduced testing time from 72 hours to 72 minutes."

Sage Rimal
Senior QA Automation Engineer

THE CHALLENGE

Campus Explorer makes college and career search easy and fun through a comprehensive search and matching engine that boasts over 8,500 options.

Formerly a QTP user during his time at another company, Sage Rimal, a Senior QA Engineer at Campus Explorer, knew there was a better, comprehensive, and holistic way to approach Quality Assurance.

"QTP is expensive." Sage says. "It uses VBScript as a scripting language, and it only supports limited browsers - for instance, it doesn't support Mac or Safari in full mode, just beta."

In 2009, Sage discovered Selenium and moved over because it was open source, supported all platforms, and all major languages. He also appreciated the large community and amount of support for Selenium.

When he was brought on to Campus Explorer, he knew he wanted to work with Selenium, but acknowledged it was difficult to maintain a Selenium Grid and several VMs. "Maintaining the test environment was a full time job," says Sage.

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"On some occasions, I spent more time setting up the test environment than actually testing."
Further, without an automated process in place, he found that manual testing their site took
up to 3 days.

THE SOLUTION

Needing a better way to test, Sage came across Sauce Labs. "I moved to Sauce because of the
wide array of browser and platform support. It's easy to use, and easier to maintain," says Sage.

Sage's team of 5 now runs over 70 tests in parallel 6 or 7 times a day as part of their Jenkins
CI builds.

The QA department enjoys the easy collaboration features. "The entire team can look at a bug
or error though screen-share," Sage says. "One of the biggest advantages that I have seen with
Sauce is that I can record test failures, and watch the complete scenario playback. I think this is
more useful than looking at the stack trace of errors."

THE RESULTS

The biggest value gain for Campus Explorer has been the ability to test on multiple browsers
using one test script without having to do any internal setup. That, paired with the easy
automation setup and browser validation in multiple environments, has been immensely helpful
in speeding up the testing process. "With Sauce, I reduced testing time from 72 hours to 72
minutes," Sage says; a time savings of 98%.

Prior to using Sauce's video playback tool, debugging took an average of 40 minutes. Now the
team regularly decreases time spent on each test failure by 75%, resulting in a much higher ROI
on developer productivity.

But the time and cost savings aren't the only benefits for Sage or his team.

"Quality means a lot for me and not just in work life, it's also important in my personal life
In QA automation, the fear 'what if something's broken?' is always there." Says Sage. Since
using Sauce Labs, Sage no longer has work-related stress. "We have CI servers that run tests
automatically and we get results immediately. Once everything passes, I don't have to worry
about it anymore. I can just go."

"While there's quality at work, my quality of life has improved because I have less stress since I use Sauce Labs."

Sage Rimal
Senior QA Automation Engineer

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