



Frequently asked questions about Dark Testing Factory

Q: What is a Dark Testing Factory?

Dark Testing Factory is a self-operating quality system guided by human leadership to ship value fast with confidence. It is the next evolution of software testing, where agents and automations can discover, design, execute, analyze, and maintain tests end to end, while people provide judgment and leadership above the execution layer.

Q: What does "dark" mean in Dark Testing Factory?

"Dark" means much of the testing work can run with minimal manual intervention, similar to a dark factory in manufacturing. It does not mean human less or zero-touch. Humans remain essential for context, policy, exceptions, and accountability.

Q: Why does software testing need a new operating model?

Because software delivery is accelerating faster than traditional testing can keep up. AI is helping teams create and revise code faster, which increases change and risk, while testing remains one of the most manual bottlenecks in delivery. The problem is not just tooling; the operating model has to change.

Q: What problems is Dark Testing Factory designed to solve?

It is designed to close the gap between testing demand and testing supply: more code, more change, more risk, and not enough time to test manually. The goal is to reduce bottlenecks and improve release confidence.

Q: Is this just autonomous testing?

No. Autonomous testing is a key building block, but Dark Testing Factory is autonomous testing elevated into an operating model. It combines agents, automation, orchestration, governance, and human leadership into a continuous quality system rather than treating autonomy as a point feature.

Q: How do agents and humans work together?

Agents and automations handle the routine execution layer. Humans define intent, set policy, resolve ambiguity, provide missing knowledge, handle exceptions, and decide what matters. The model is simple: agents think, robots do, people lead.

Q: Does Dark Testing Factory replace testers?

No. It elevates testers. The point is not fewer testers, but fewer wasted tester hours and more strategic impact. As execution becomes more autonomous, testers move into leadership roles where they shape quality, risk, and release readiness.

Q: What work can agents and automation help with?

Agents and automation can help with intake, requirements evaluation, test design, environment setup, test data preparation, test execution, result analysis, defect handling, test maintenance, reporting, and stakeholder notification. In the operating model shown in the assets, they can also spin up and tear down environments, run tests across different technologies, and triage failures.

Q: What work still requires human expertise?

Humans are needed to set quality objectives, define risk profiles, design guardrails, supply missing knowledge, clarify ambiguous requirements, decide trade-offs, and own outcomes. These are leadership responsibilities that depend on tacit knowledge and accountability, which cannot simply be delegated to AI.

Q: How does this help QA and testing leaders?

It changes the economics of quality. Instead of scaling testing by adding more manual effort and more headcount, leaders can scale quality through reusable software, knowledge, orchestration, and autonomous workflows. That improves speed, coverage, and resource efficiency while keeping humans in control.

Q: How does this help practitioners?

It moves practitioners from tactical test execution to strategic quality leadership. Instead of spending time on button-pushing, reruns, handoffs, and manual defect filing, they can focus on judgment, risk, exceptions, quality strategy, and release readiness.

Q: What outcomes should organizations expect?

The core outcomes are faster releases, lower testing cost, better use of scarce resources, reduced business risk, and greater confidence in release decisions. The larger promise is that testing shifts from labor that repeats into software that scales, with each cycle making the next one smarter.

Q: How does UiPath Test Cloud fit in?

UiPath Test Cloud provides the platform foundation that makes Dark Testing Factory possible. It brings together agents, automation, orchestration, testing assets, governance, and quality management capabilities, so organizations can build the operating model in practice.

Q: What does governance mean in this context?

Governance is what keeps autonomy trusted and controlled. It includes risk profiles, policies, escalation rules, approval thresholds, observability, and auditability so that humans decide how much autonomy a fabric gets and when the system must ask for approval or escalate.

Q: Where should an organization start?

Start with one high-value testing flow that is repeatable, visible, and painful to manage manually today. The best first candidates are areas with frequent change, clear business risk, and enough structure to benefit from automation and AI agents right away.

A good starting point is to define the signals that trigger testing, ground the workflow in business context, and establish the guardrails for when the system can proceed on its own and when human review is needed. From there, organizations can expand autonomy step by step across related tests, environments, and workflows as confidence grows.

Ready to learn more about Dark Testing Factory?

Learn how teams are using AI agents, automation, and human expertise to accelerate testing, improve release confidence, and elevate testers into strategic quality leaders.

[Learn more](#)

