

The Social

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Fruit tower art lauded over at annual fruit tower competitions.

Is there a testing revolution about to start? One group of testers in the south of England think so.

A revolution in testing? Sounds like a book title.

MAN TESTING LOCAL COUNCILS PATIENCE WITH DAILY EMAIL COMPLAINTS

A man in Hampshire is testing the patience of his local council with daily email complaints about his neighbour's garden. More on Page 10.

CEO of CBPBOS demands testers adopt all Best Practices

Software testers in uproar, negotiations continue

In another bizarre move, the CEO of CBPBOS, Duncan Briefly Fly, has demanded the test team adopt all best practices in testing. The test team have downed tools proclaiming there are no such things as Best Practices.

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After joining several testing groups to spy on his employees, Mr Duncan Briefly Fly decided his test team should adopt all best practices being talked about in the testing world.

One employee in a fit of rage made the following statement “It appears our illustrious leader has been brainwashed in to believing best practices exists in testing. Sadly, it appears some in the testing community believe that every successful test effort in a project is a best practice. They then blog about it, write articles about it and call it a best practice. This in turn makes my life harder as 99.9% of these best practices do not work for us”

It’s not clear what best practices the test team have been made to adopt, but it is clear that Mr Fly has employed a number of people to surf the web looking for new testing best practices.

Bob Jefferson, lead tester at CBPBOS made the following statement. “We are being told to adopt any best practice from any source. So we’ve now got some testers automating everything, some testers regression testing everything, some testers writing detailed test cases, some writing no test cases, some installing on virtual machines, some installing in test labs, some outsourcing, some contracting out and some simply sitting there in fits of confusion. It’s a mess. It’s insane. Most of the best practices contradict each other anyway.”

“He has failed to grasp that context is King”

Mr Fly made a very clear statement yesterday to awaiting reporters.

“Best Practices in testing are a way of ensuring our test monkeys are in line with industry standards. It means we test the way we should test, as stated by those in the know. I’ve had a gold plaque made for each of the best practices we have adopted.

They are lining the boardroom and looking pretty good”

Daniel Hassel who wrote the article ‘Best Practices in Automation’ which has won acclaim throughout the testing community backed up Mr Fly’s statements. “My best practice worked for me, my team and my project and it will therefore absolutely work for others. Mr Fly is ensuring his test team follow the industry standard and by doing that, the quality of his software will be spot on”

The testers attempting to adopt the best practices share a different view.

Pete Bailiff states “He has failed to grasp that context is King. Just because it worked for one company doesn’t mean it will work for us”

Whilst Donna Maki made a crucial statement “How can a best practice exist in testing? We are all different, with different requirements, different customers, different market constraints, different budgets, and different skill sets, different systems in place, different mind sets and different abilities. Yet dufus upstairs thinks none of that is relevant. That we can adopt anything anyone states is a best practice”

Further to Donna’s statement was a key speech to his test team by long suffering test manager Barnicle Denby

“Sure, there are suggestions, ideas, hints, tips, opinions, concepts and things that have worked for others, but there is no such thing as a best practice in testing. Just recommendations.”

It’s clear to this reporter that best practices are contentious things. Assuming the way you work can be simply adopted by others appears to be a naive way of looking at testing.

Testers appreciating that others contexts are different will hopefully stop this epidemic of labelling every single idea a best practices.

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