



Alpha Beta and Acceptance Testing

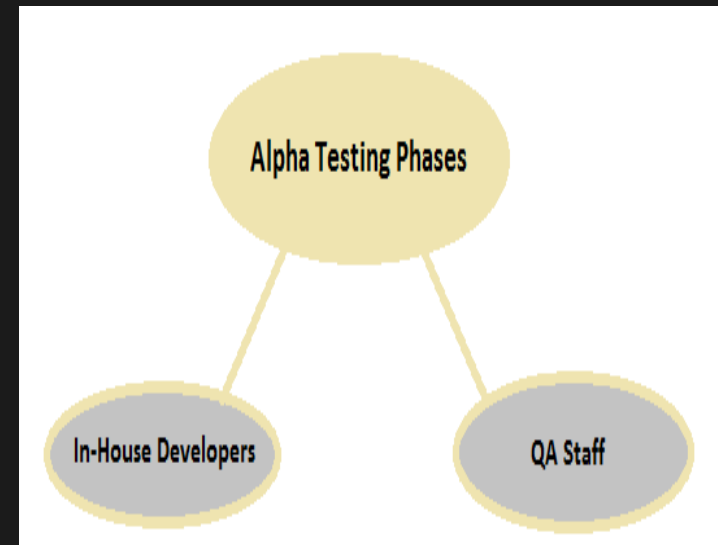


What is Alpha Testing ???

Alpha Testing

Alpha testing is a type of testing that is done on an application towards the end of a development process when the product is almost in a usable state.

- Done by the customer at developer site.
- Conducted in controlled Environment.
- Developer is present.
- Carried out before the release of the software to customer.
- Error and failure are recorded.
- White Box + Black Box Testing.





What is Beta Testing???

Beta Testing

Beta Testing of a product is performed by "real users" of the software application in a "real environment" and can be considered as a form of external user Acceptance Testing.

- Done by the customer at customer site.
- Conducted in real time Environment not under the developer control.
- Developer is not present.
- Carried out after the release of the software to customer.
- Error and failure are reported.
- Black Box Testing.





What is **Acceptance** Testing ???

Acceptance Testing

- Testing is performed by the Client of the application to determine whether the application is developed as per the requirements specified by him/her.



Alpha Testing Vs Beta Testing

Alpha Testing Vs Beta Testing

Alpha Testing	Beta Testing
Alpha testing performed by Testers who are usually internal employees of the organization	Beta testing is performed by Clients or End Users who are not employees of the organization
Alpha Testing performed at developer's site	Beta testing is performed at client location or end user of the product
Reliability and Security Testing are not performed in-depth Alpha Testing	Reliability, Security, Robustness are checked during Beta Testing
Alpha testing involves both the white box and black box techniques	Beta Testing typically uses Black Box Testing
Alpha testing requires lab environment or testing environment	Beta testing doesn't require any lab environment or testing environment. Software is made available to the public and is said to be real time environment
Long execution cycle may be required for Alpha testing	Only few weeks of execution are required for Beta testing
Critical issues or fixes can be addressed by developers immediately in Alpha testing	Most of the issues or feedback is collected from Beta testing will be implemented in future versions of the product
Alpha testing is to ensure the quality of the product before moving to Beta testing	Beta testing also concentrates on quality of the product, but gathers users input on the product and ensures that the product is ready for real time users.

Conclusion

- No matter how many tests you perform, how many bugs you kill, your software is useless if your users do not like it. Beta testing (second Greek alphabet) helps provide authentic feedback of your software from real users.
- Alpha testing (first Greek alphabet) helps simulate realtime user environment before the software is sent for Beta Testing and helps shape a stable software candidate eligible for Beta Tests.
- Alpha and Beta Testing are indispensable in your testing life cycle.

Any Questions???

