



## **Firefox Recording Extension Toolbar**

**Version 5.4  
English Edition**



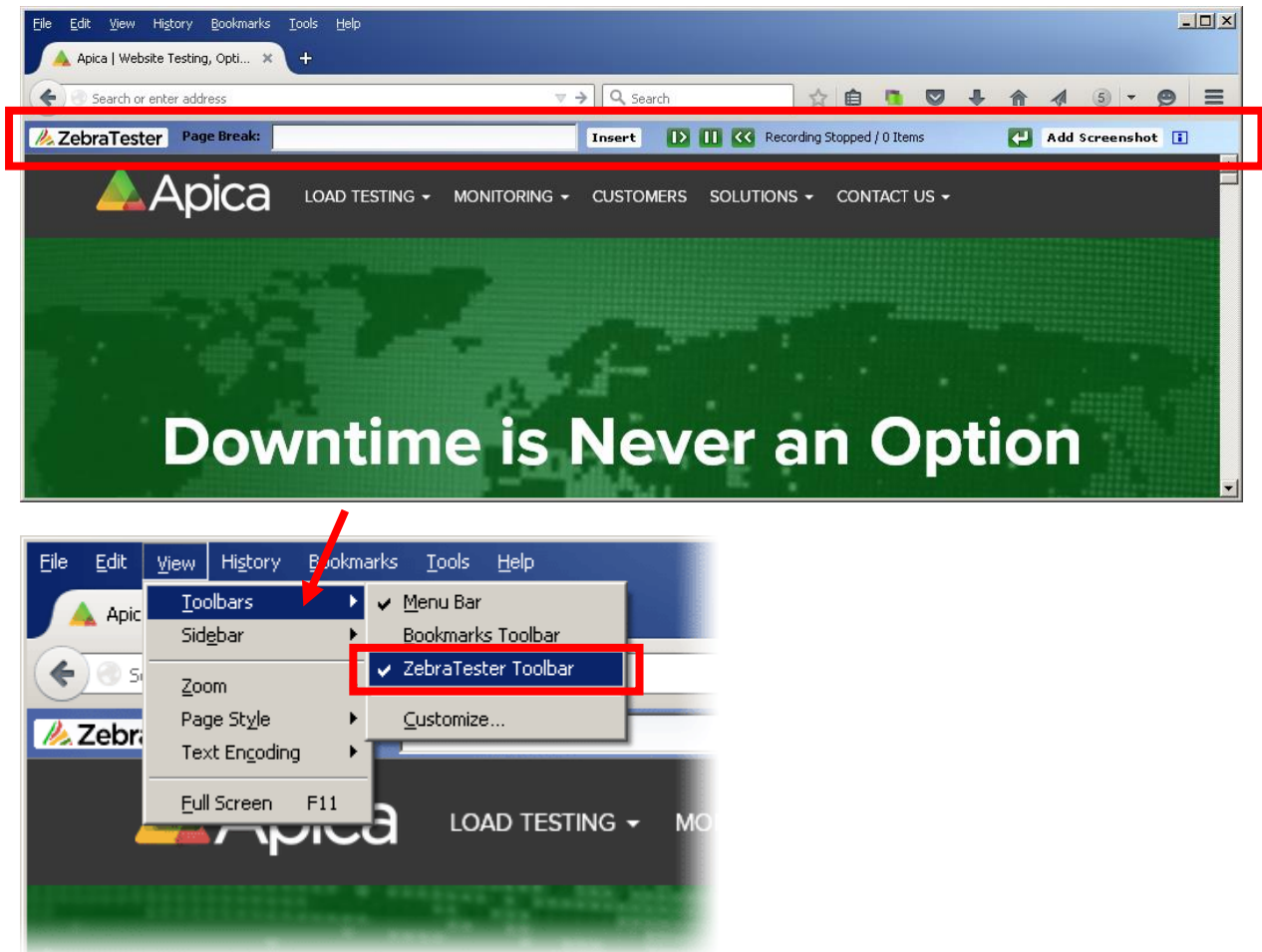
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# 1 Overview, Installation and Configuration

The “Firefox Recording Extension” allows the recording of Web surfing sessions in convenient way. The recording extension is displayed as a “Firefox Toolbar”, named **ZebraTester Toolbar**, in the upper part of the Web browser window.

***Note: Using this Firefox extension is optional – the recording of Web surfing sessions can also be made without using this extension ➔ see ZebraTester User’s Guide, chapter 2, to learn how to record Web surfing sessions with any other Web browser such as Internet Explorer, Google Chrome or Safari.***



## 1.1 Supported Firefox Versions

The “Firefox Recording Extension” **V3.4** supports the latest Firefox releases starting from version 33. The extension has been successfully tested on Windows systems, as well as on Mac OS X and on Linux systems, and should also work on any other Unix-Like operating system (BSD, Solaris, ...).

## 1.2 Supported ZebraTester Versions

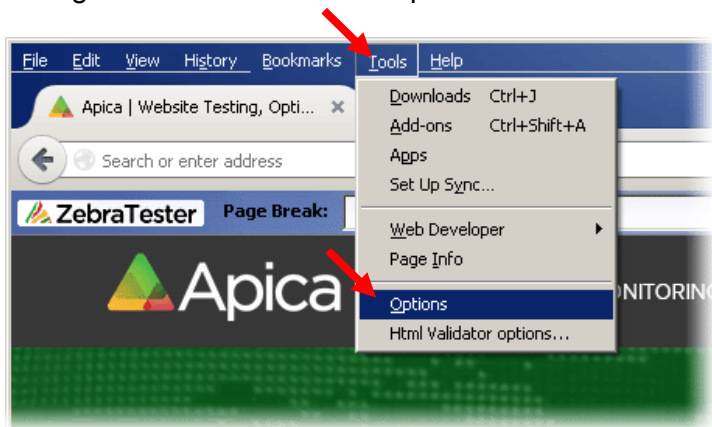
The “Firefox Recording Extension” requires ZebraTester version 5.4-D or later.

## 1.3 Installation and Firefox Configuration

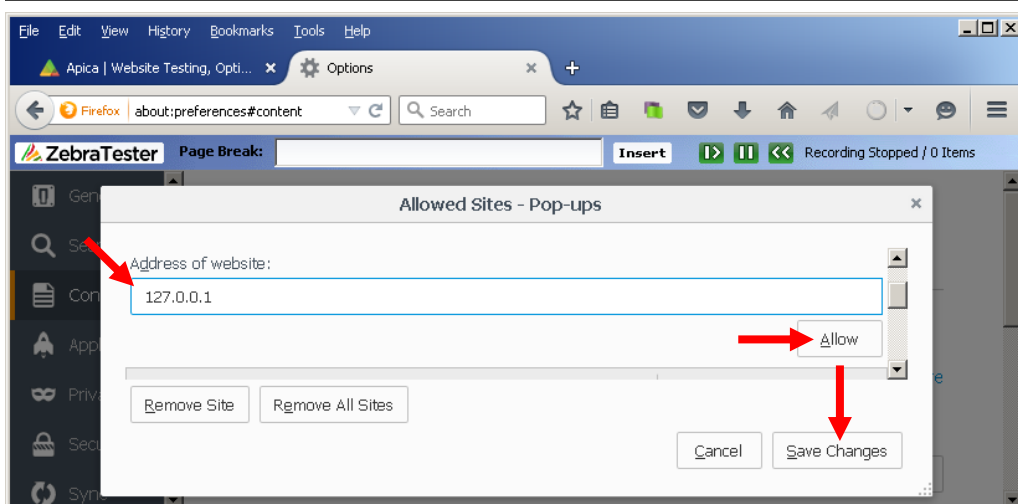
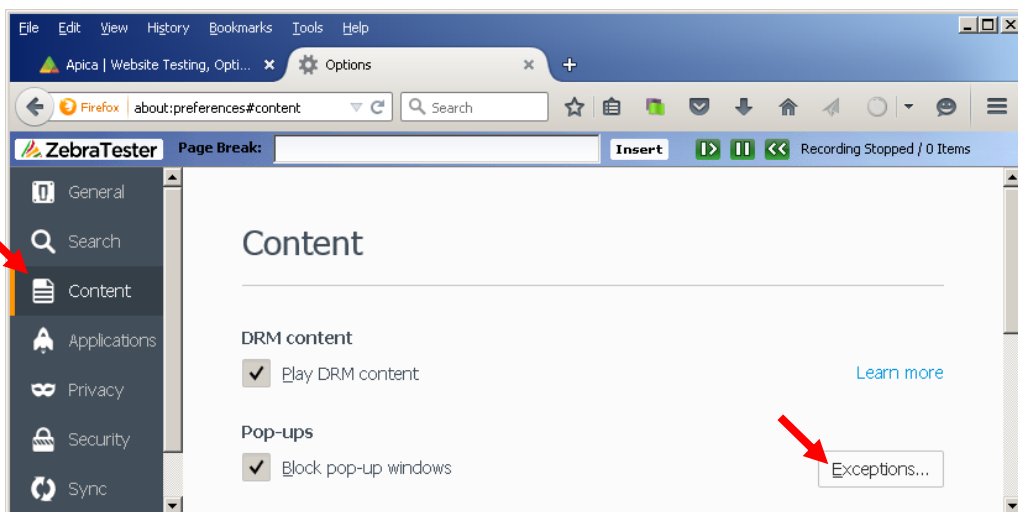
To install the extension, enter the following URL in the Web browser  
[http://www.zebratester.ch/download/zebratester\\_recording\\_extension-3.4003-fx.zip](http://www.zebratester.ch/download/zebratester_recording_extension-3.4003-fx.zip)  
and **unzip the content** to a local folder after download.

Then install the **Firefox Recording Extension (ZebraTester Toolbar)** by using the  
**Firefox Menu Bar** ➔ **File** ➔ **Open File ...** **zebratester\_recording\_extension-3.4003-fx.xpi**

After the installation is completed, make the following change to your Firefox configuration by calling the Firefox “Tools” ➔ “Options...” menu:



### 1.3.1 Pop-Up Windows Settings



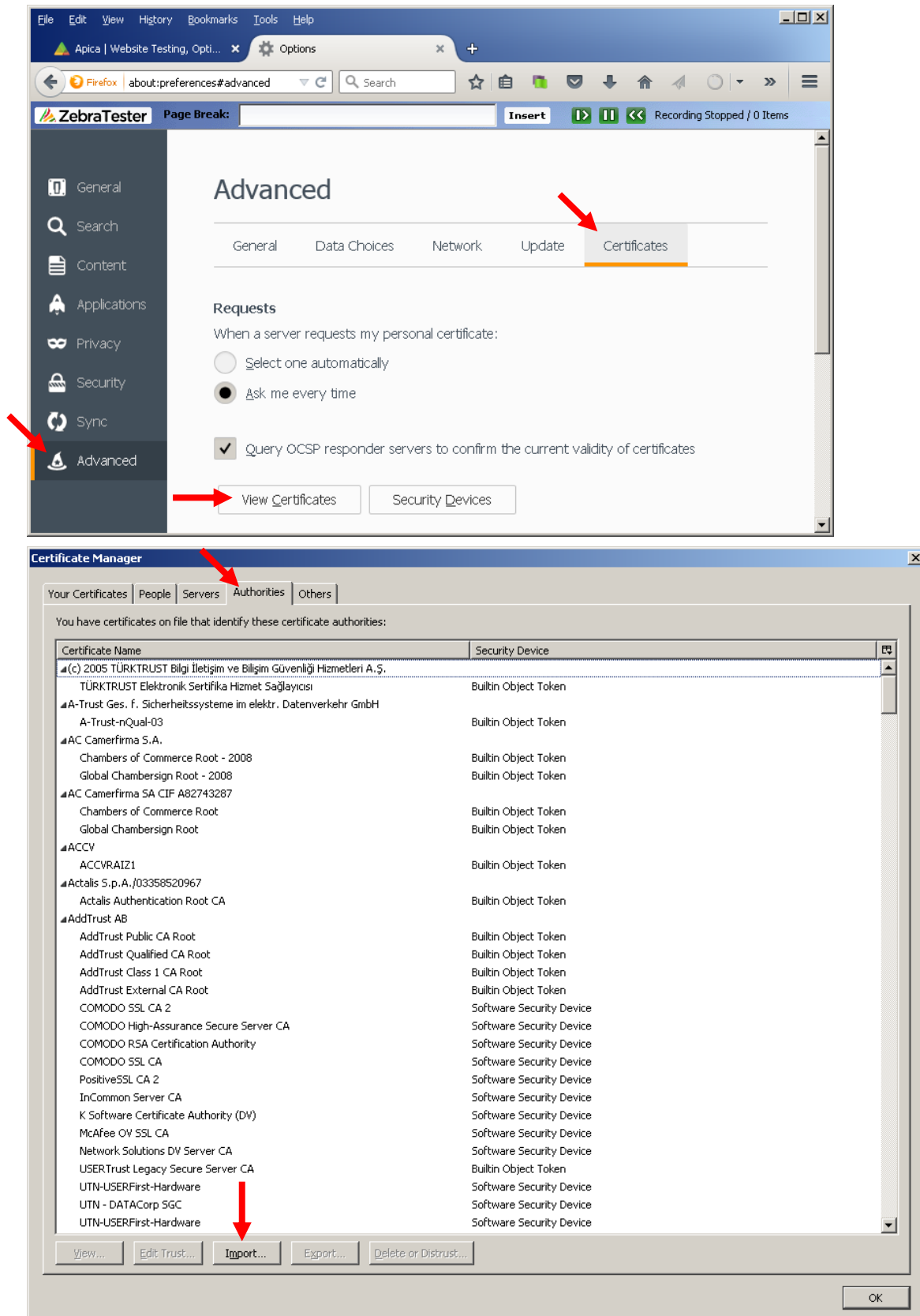
Allow pop-up windows from 127.0.0.1

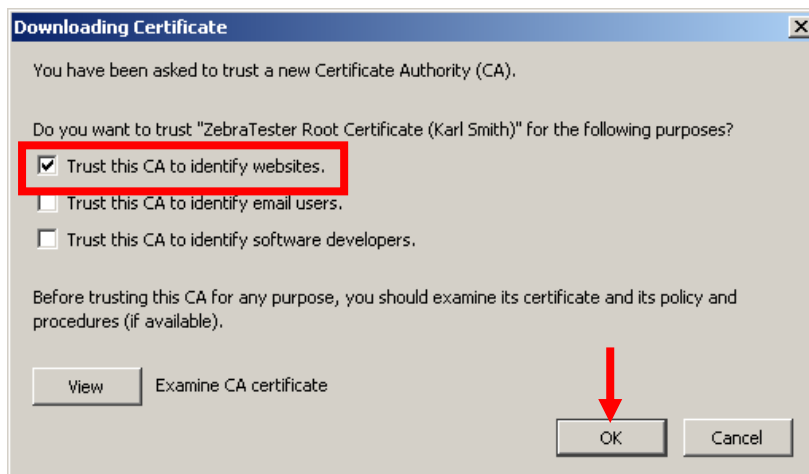
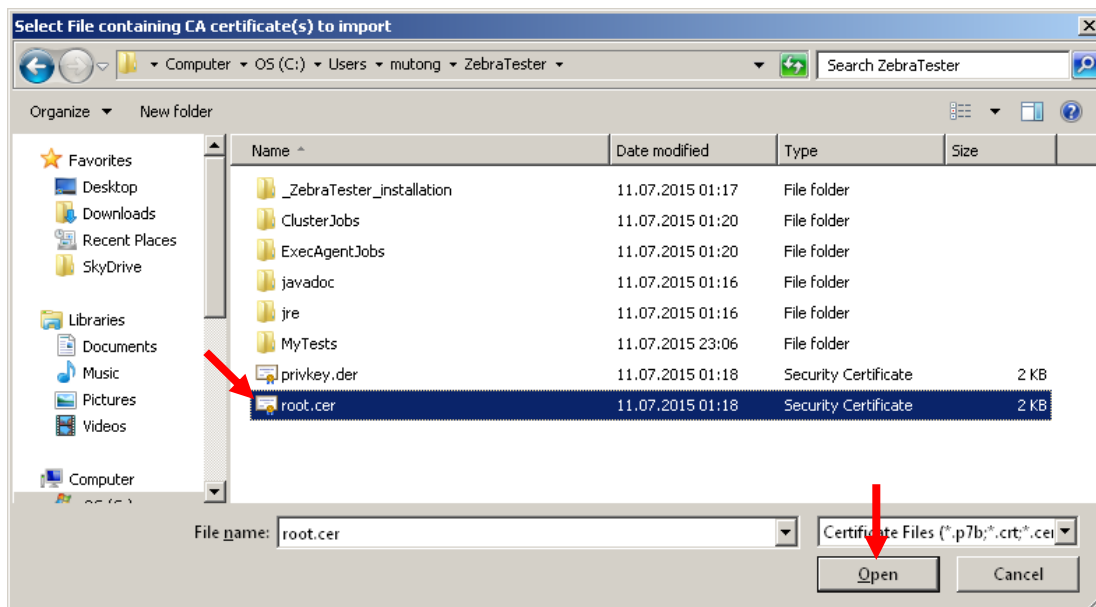
### 1.3.2 Import CA Root Certificate

Import your CA Root Certificate into Firefox which is located in the **ZebraTester installation directory** (filename: **root.cer**).

If you don't have created yet your own, private CA Root Certificate then you should do it now following the instructions in the **ZebraTester Installation Guide**.

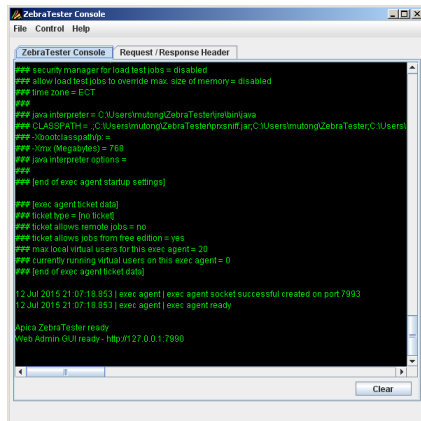
The following screen shots show how to import the CA Root Certificate:





## 1.4 Starting ZebraTester

After the extension has been installed and Firefox has been configured, start the **“ZebraTester Console”**. Please note that there is no longer any need to click on the desktop icon **“ZebraTester GUI”**, because the same functionality can be reached by using the ZebraTester toolbar.

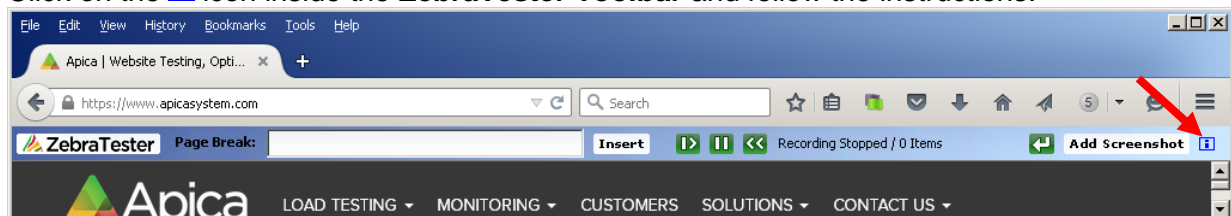


Open ZebraTester GUI



## 1.5 Next Steps for Recording your first Web Surfing Session

Click on the  icon inside the **ZebraTester Toolbar** and follow the instructions:









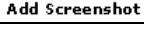
## 1.6 Further Steps

Don't miss to read the **User's Guide (PDF)**. We recommend that you also read the additional documentation about **Handling of Dynamically-Exchanged Session Parameters (PDF)**.



## 2 The ZebraTester Toolbar

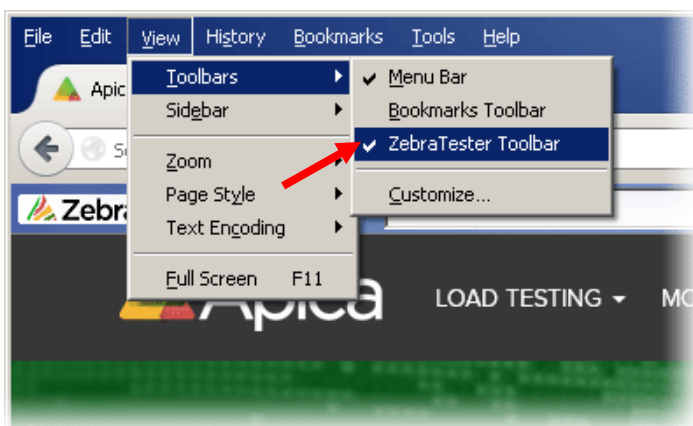


-  Opens the ZebraTester “Web Admin GUI” in a new browser window.
- **Page Break** Input Field: Adds a “Page Break” to the recorded Web surfing session. You can also hit the <Return> key in the input field to add a page break, instead of clicking on the  button.
  -  Starts the recording of a Web surfing session. In addition, the following actions are automatically performed by this Firefox Recording Extension:
    1. The cache of the Web browser is cleared
    2. All cookies in the Web browser are cleared
    3. The proxy configuration of the Web browser is set to 127.0.0.1 (port 7999 for http and port 7997 for https) to support the recording of the Web surfing session. The old (original) proxy configuration of the Web browser is saved, and later restored when recording is stopped.
  -  Stops recording and restores the original Web browser proxy configuration
  -  Clears all recorded data, but does not alter the recording state (stopped / started)
  - **Status Label:** Shows the current ZebraTester state; for example, “Recording Started / 43 Items”. The status label is automatically updated every 7 seconds. An error message is shown if no “ZebraTester Console” is started.
  -  Allows manual update of the Status Label.
  -  Adds a screenshot of the Web browser window to the last Page Break, or – if currently no Page Break has been defined – inserts first a Page Break and then adds a screenshot of the Web browser to this Page Break.

*Note: Taking screenshots is optional and not required for load test execution.*

### Important Note:

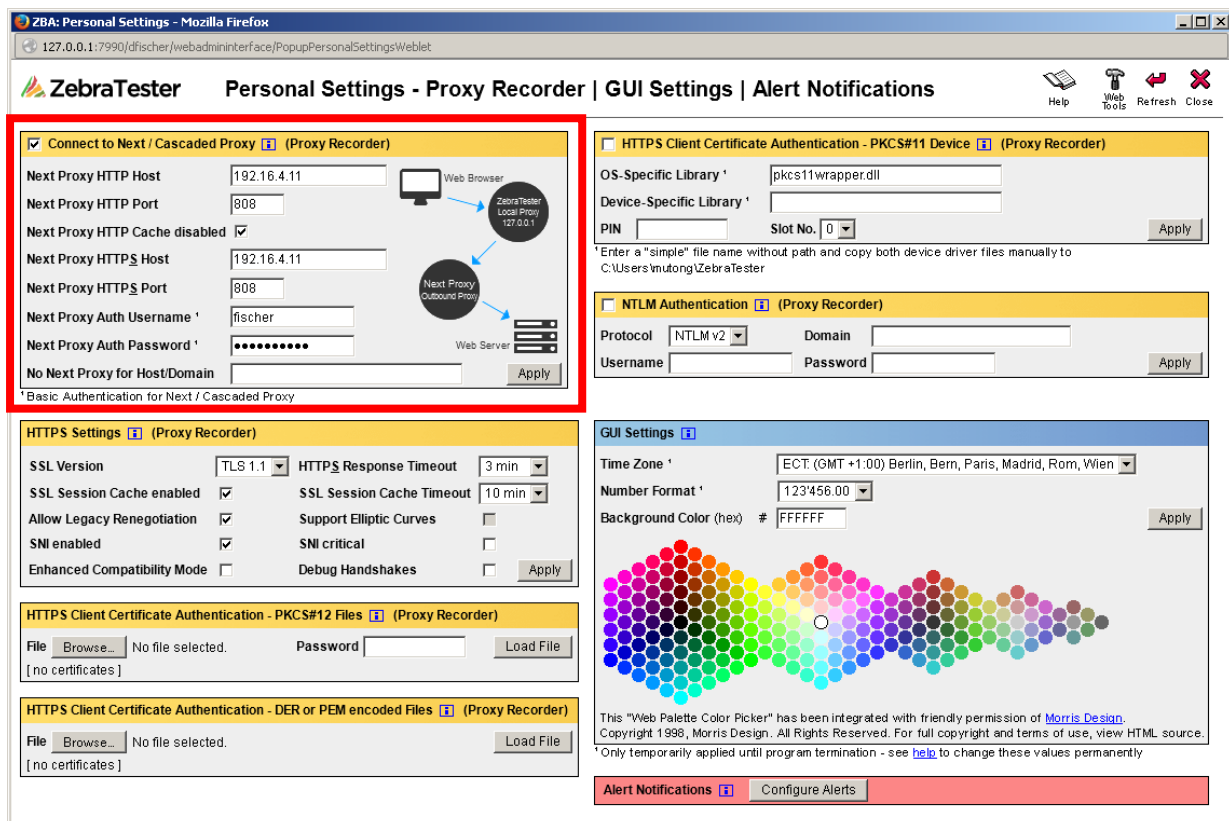
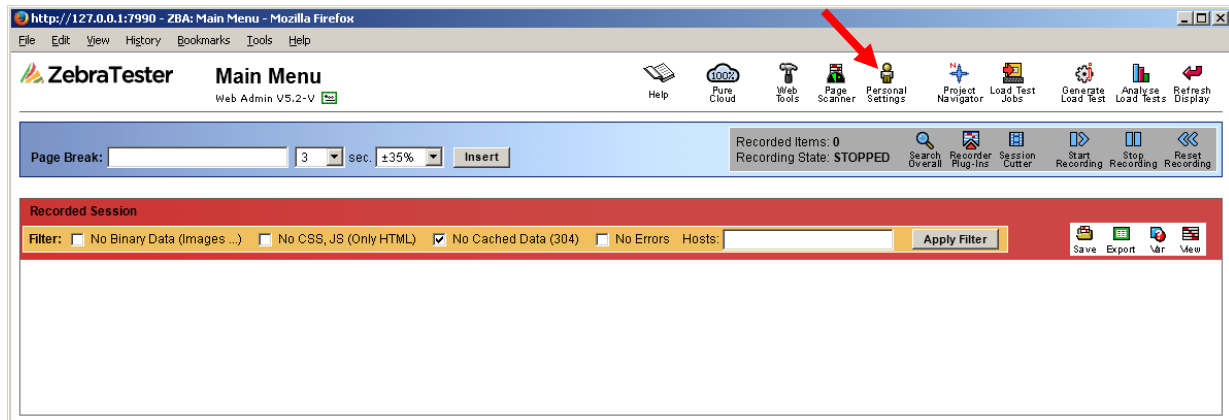
During the normal operation of the Firefox Web browser – when no Web browser sessions should be recorded – it is strongly recommended that **all activity of this extension be disabled**. This can easily be done by **disabling the “ZebraTester Toolbar”** in the Web browser menu “View” ➔ “Toolbars”.





### 3 Support for Outbound/Cascaded Proxy Servers

If your target Web application, or target Web server, is reachable only via your company's outbound proxy server (no direct TCP/IP network connection to the Web server from your local computer), you must additionally configure the outbound proxy server in the **“Personal Settings”** menu which is reachable via the **Main Menu** of the ZebraTester “Web Admin GUI”:

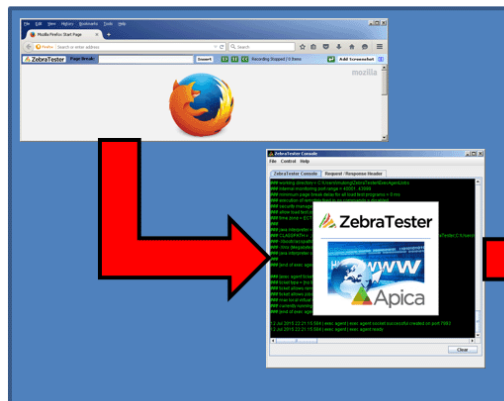


## 4 Standard and Remote Configuration

We recommend that you always use the **standard configuration** for the "Firefox Recording Extension", meaning that both, the ZebraTester Console and the "Firefox Recording Extension", run on the same system.

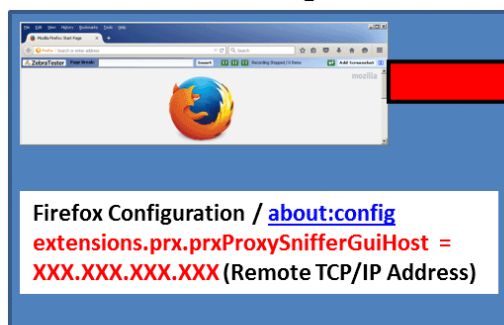
Optionally, it is also possible to use the "Firefox Recording Extension" on any other system at which no ZebraTester component is installed. But this requires that you manually enable the **remote configuration** setting for the "Firefox Recording Extension".

### Standard Configuration



Target System / Stressed Web Server

### Remote Configuration



Workstation

#### ZebraTester Web Admin

- Started as Windows Service / Unix Daemon (recommended)
- or
- Started as Console (not recommended – Firefox may block)

Remote Machine: ZebraTester Installation

### 4.1 Remote Configuration Setting

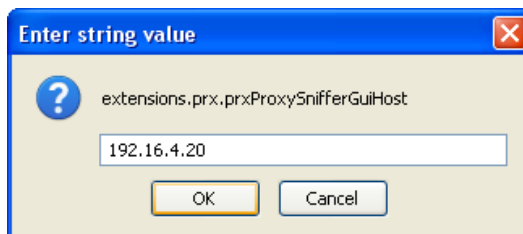
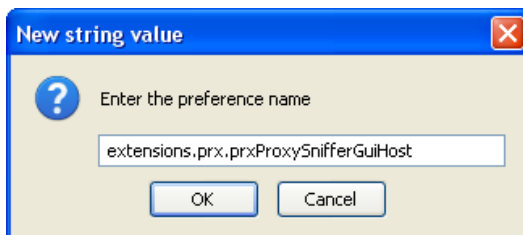
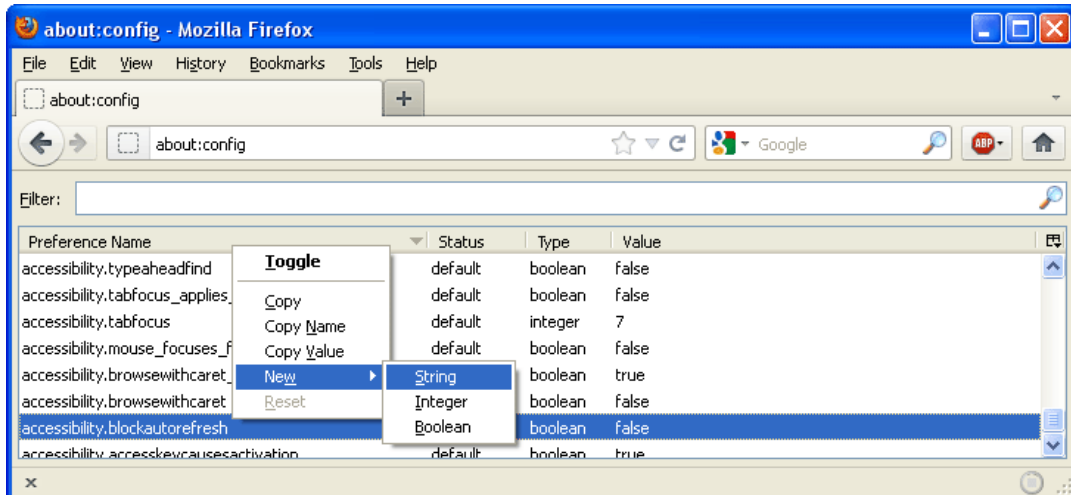
Using the "Firefox Recording Extension" in remote configuration mode requires that the ZebraTester GUI component is always running and available on another system. **In contrast to the standard configuration, the "Firefox Recording Extension" will block the whole Firefox Web browser if the remote system is not available or cannot be reached via the network.**

Perform the following steps to use the "Firefox Recording Extension" in remote configuration mode:

1. As first step, you should modify your ZebraTester GUI installation in such a way, that the ZebraTester GUI is started as a Windows Service or as a Unix Daemon. Further information about this first step is provided in the "**Application Reference Manual**", **chapter 3.6 and 3.7**. You should also delete the icon "ZebraTester Console" from the desktop because it is no longer needed.
2. As second step, at the machine where the ZebraTester GUI component is now running as Windows Service or as Unix Daemon, you must **reconfigure the local firewall**

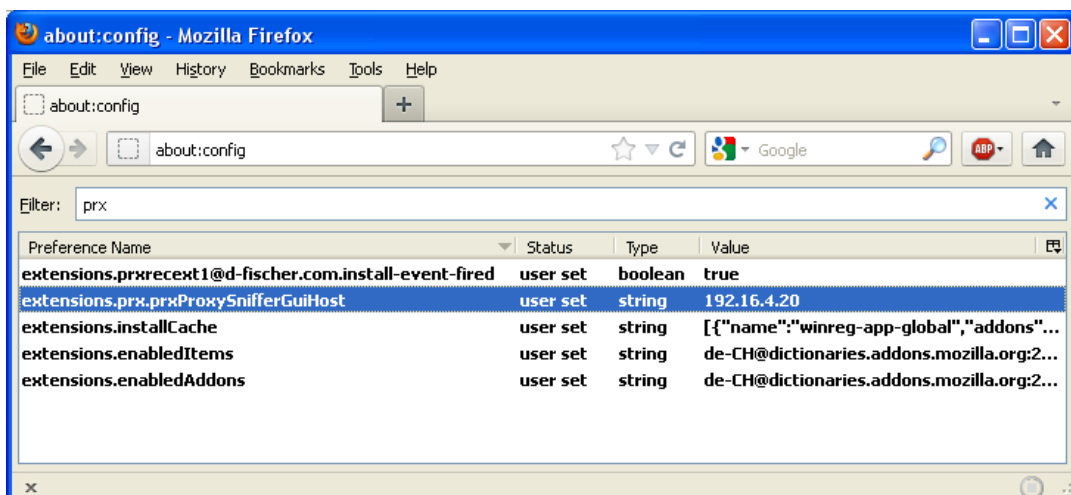
**settings** in such a way that inbound TCP/IP connections for the three TCP/IP ports 7990, 7997 and 7999 are allowed.

- As third step, at the machine where the "Firefox Recording Extension" is used, you have to add manually a new preference for Firefox by calling **about:config** (see also <http://kb.mozillazine.org/About:config>). You have to add a new preference-name (string) that contains the text **extensions.prx.prxProxySnifferGuiHost** and as value the TCP/IP address of the machine on which the ZebraTester GUI component is running:



Note: the TCP/IP address shown here is only an example. Please use the actual TCP/IP address of the machine on which the ZebraTester GUI component is running.

The new preference is now created. You can use the filter value = "prx" to display the preference and its value:



- Finally you have to restart Firefox** in order that the new preference becomes active: Close all Firefox windows and then start Firefox again.

## 4.2 Unblocking a frozen Firefox Web Browser

As mentioned before **the "Firefox Recording Extension" will block the whole Firefox Web browser if the remote system running the GUI component of ZebraTester is not available or cannot be reached via the network**. Note that this can happen only if you use the "Remote Configuration". But it will never happen when you use the "Standard Configuration", even though the ZebraTester Console is not running.

To unblock a frozen Firefox web browser you have the following two options:

- a) Bring the machine on which the ZebraTester GUI component is running online and reachable via TCP/IP.
- b) Or remove the preference **extensions.prx.prxProxySnifferGuiHost** from the Firefox configuration. For this you have first to stop Firefox. Then locate the Firefox configuration file named **prefs.js**. After that use a text editor like notepad or vi and **remove the line** containing the preference **extensions.prx.prxProxySnifferGuiHost** from the file.

### Example:

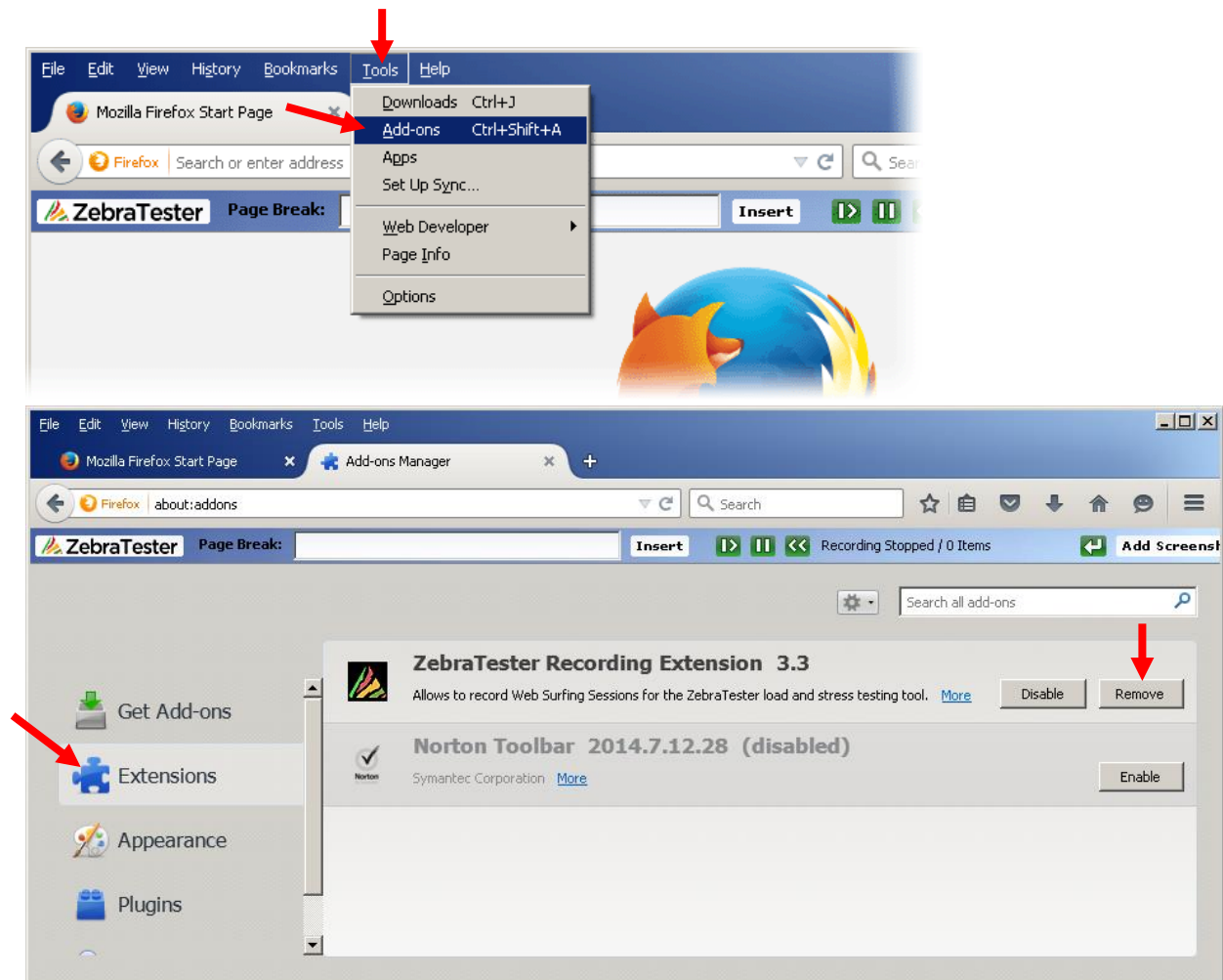
The file **prefs.js** is located at:

`C:\Documents and Settings\<User>\Application Data\Mozilla\Firefox\Profiles\zxy.default\prefs.js`

The line to be deleted contains the following text:

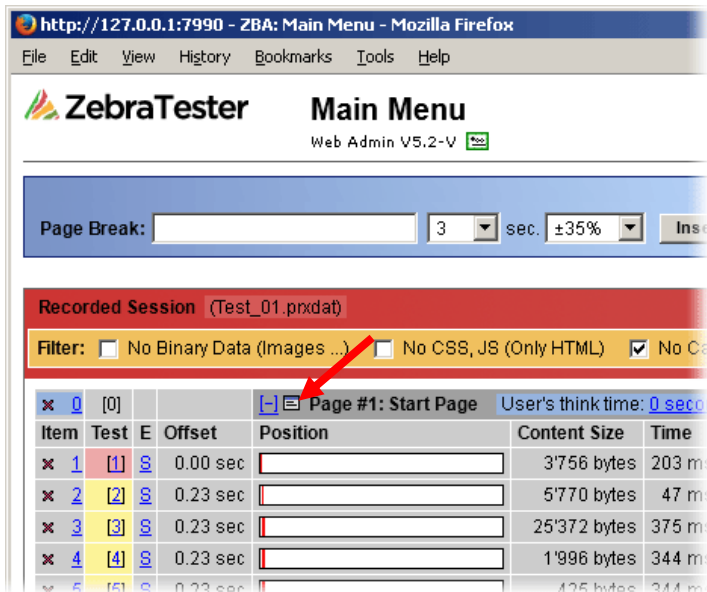
```
user_pref("extensions.prx.prxProxySnifferGuiHost", "192.16.4.20");
```

## 5 Uninstalling the Extension



## 6 FAQ: Where are Web Browser Screenshots Displayed in ZebraTester ?

Inside the “Main Menu”:



Inside the “Load Test Result Detail” Menu:

Load Test: Test\_01 Start Date: 12 Jul 2015 23:07:35 User: 3 Test Duration: 1:12 min Annotation: ---

Advanced Test Parameter		Measured Results: per Single User - per Loop		Overall Test Results	
Startup Delay per User:	200 ms	AV Session Time per Loop:	11.83 sec/loop	Web Transaction Rate:	13.6 URL calls/sec
Request Timeout per URL:	60 sec	AV Response Time per Page:	0.71 sec/page	Session Failure Rate:	0.00 %
Statistic Sampling Interval:	15 sec	Network Throughput per User:	96.0 kBytes/sec	Total Network Throughput:	2.02 MB/sec

Total Transmitted: 17 MB

Test Scenario: Warning

Diagram: Response Time per Page

Results per URL Call (Overview)

Results per URL Call (Details)

Diagram: Response Time Percentiles

Diagram: Top Time-Consuming URLs

Diagram: Concurrent Users

Diagram: Session Time

Diagram: Web Transaction Rate

Diagram: Outstanding HTTP/S Requests

Diagram: Completed Loops

Diagram: TCP Socket Connect Time

Diagram: Network Throughput

Diagram: HTTP Keep-Alive Efficiency

Diagram: SSL Cache Efficiency

Diagram: Session Failures

Diagram: Error Types

Diagram: Number of Errors per Page

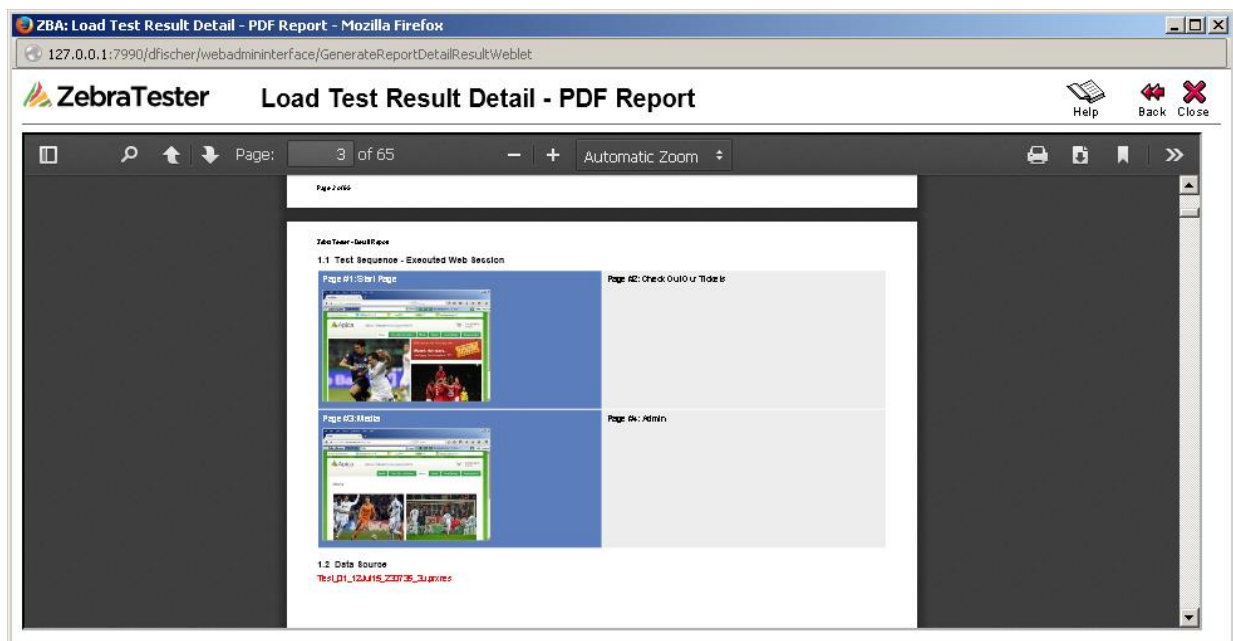
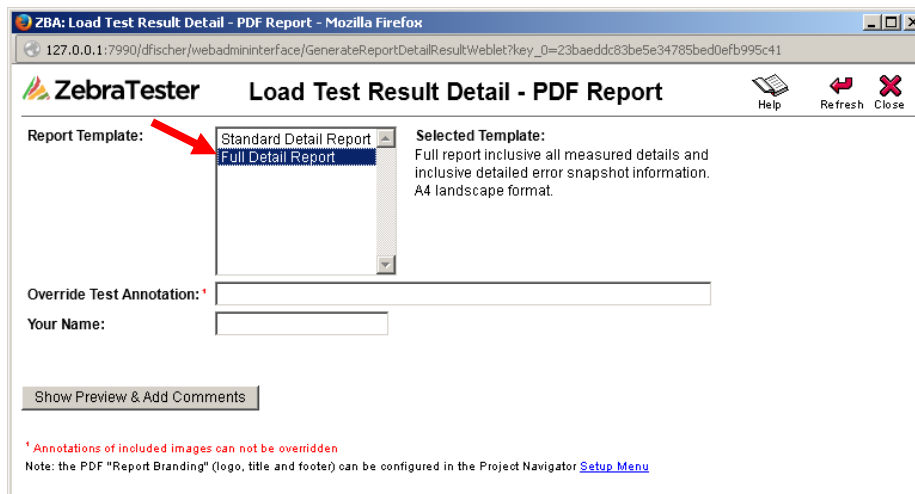
Diagram: Number of Errors per URL

Diagram: External Measured Data

Results per URL Call (Overview)

Test	E	# Passed	# Failed	AV Time	<= 90 %	Accept	AV Size	URL
[0]	S	16	0	181 ms	198 ms	100.0%	5'074 bytes	GET https://cldemo.apicasystem.com:443/
[1]	S	16	0	47 ms	56 ms	100.0%	8'685 bytes	GET https://cldemo.apicasystem.com:443/WebResource.axd?d=SwCcMWJbC5HPR0GyW
[2]	S	16	0	74 ms	76 ms	100.0%	26'067 bytes	GET https://cldemo.apicasystem.com:443/Scripts/ApicaEUX.js
[3]	S	16	0	39 ms	41 ms	100.0%	2'690 bytes	GET https://cldemo.apicasystem.com:443/Styles/styleSheet.css

## Inside the "Full Detail Report" (PDF):





## **7 Manufacturer**

**Ingenieurbüro David Fischer AG, Switzerland | A company of the Apica Group**

Product Web Site: <http://www.zebratester.com>

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