How do I begin beta testing?

Asked 16 years, 3 months ago   Modified 6 years, 8 months ago

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I have a project that I would like to start beta testing soon, it is a PHP/MySQL site for programmers. I have beta tested sites before however it was always in-house, and I have never done betas that could/should be seen by someone other then those associated with the project.

How should I go about starting the beta, and what problems, aside from those the beta is supposed to expose, should I be prepared for?

testing   beta

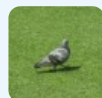Share

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edited Apr 6, 2018 at 17:52

Nathan Smith
681 ● 1 ● 10 ● 24

asked Sep 2, 2008 at 9:46

UnkwnTech
90.7k ● 65 ● 191 ● 234

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4 Answers   Sorted by: Highest score (default) ⇕

First, accept the fact that problems with your app (code, usability, etc.) will be discovered.

Then, make sure you have a clear way for users to communicate with you (form mail, email, uservoice, etc.). The easier you make this the better. For example, there is a uservoice link on every page of SO.

One philosophy I strongly believe in: if it's confusing to your users, it's broken. Be willing to change your app (no matter how "beautiful" the design may be) if your users are confused or not liking it. This doesn't mean you have to cave on your decisions, just that you need to consider revisions to improve the user experience.

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answered Sep 2, 2008 at 15:40

Michael Haren

108k ●41 ●171 ●206

Check out Jeff's post on it, I think he has recent experience ;-)

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answered Sep 2, 2008 at 9:48

Keith

155k ●82 ●306 ●446

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Hmm, problems related to the people? Are you referring to usability problems?

Also, if you are doing a beta,it means you already did everything you know (in my opinion). One of the goals of a beta is to show you what you didn't knew, besides unexpected code problems, etc.

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answered Sep 2, 2008 at 10:38

Favio
1,009 ● 1 ● 8 ● 19

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Beta testing is a part of acceptance testing. This type of testing will ensure the customer about the functionality and quality of the product. Beta testing is done on customers end in an uncontrolled environment. In beta testing customer driven test cases are written and he can enter whatever he wants to enter. Here developer don't have any control over the testing approach.

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answered Sep 16, 2014 at 11:40

mohit sarsar
189 ● 3 ● 8