**Knowledge Transfer Document: Clear Results Utility for Robot Framework**

**Objective**

This document outlines a utility designed to clear the Results directory before the start of any test execution. By deleting all existing result files and subfolders, it ensures that each test run starts with a clean slate, preventing any interference from previous executions.

**Utility Overview**

* **Purpose:**
  + Deletes all files and folders from the Results directory before the start of test execution.
  + Prevents accumulation of old or irrelevant test results.
* **When It Runs:**
  + The utility is associated with the test runner and executes **before** test execution begins.

**Implementation Details**

**Folder Structure**

The utility assumes the following folder structure:

bash

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Project/

├── RobotPython/

│ ├── Results/ # Directory containing previous execution results

│ ├── Utilities/

│ │ └── clear\_results.py # The utility script

│ ├── Tests/

**Python Utility: clear\_results.py**

python

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import os

import shutil

# Path to Results Directory

RESULTS\_PATH = r"RobotPython/Results"

# Function to Clear Results Directory

def clear\_results\_directory():

if os.path.exists(RESULTS\_PATH):

try:

# Remove all files and subdirectories

for item in os.listdir(RESULTS\_PATH):

item\_path = os.path.join(RESULTS\_PATH, item)

if os.path.isfile(item\_path):

os.remove(item\_path)

print(f"Deleted file: {item\_path}")

elif os.path.isdir(item\_path):

shutil.rmtree(item\_path)

print(f"Deleted folder: {item\_path}")

print(f"All files and folders in '{RESULTS\_PATH}' have been deleted.")

except Exception as e:

print(f"Error while clearing the Results directory: {e}")

else:

print(f"'{RESULTS\_PATH}' directory does not exist. No action required.")

# Main Execution

if \_\_name\_\_ == "\_\_main\_\_":

print("Starting to clear Results directory...")

clear\_results\_directory()

print("Results directory cleared successfully.")

**How to Integrate with Robot Framework**

1. **Run the Utility Before Test Execution:**  
   Add a call to the utility in your test runner script or pipeline. For example, if using a batch script to run tests:

bash

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python RobotPython/Utilities/clear\_results.py

robot --outputdir RobotPython/Results Tests/

1. **Using in a Pre-Test Listener:**  
   If you want this utility to be associated with Robot Framework's execution lifecycle, you can use the --listener option with a pre-test hook. However, direct execution before running tests is recommended.

**Execution Workflow**

1. **Before Test Execution:**
   * The utility checks if the Results directory exists.
   * Deletes all files and subdirectories within the directory.
   * Prints the status of the cleanup operation.
2. **After Cleanup:**
   * The directory is left empty, ready for new test results.
   * Test execution starts without any interference from old results.

**Advantages**

* **Clean Start:** Ensures all test runs start with a clean slate, avoiding result overlaps or errors.
* **Automation:** Fully automated process, eliminating manual cleanup.
* **Error-Free Execution:** Reduces potential conflicts or confusion caused by leftover results.

**Best Practices**

1. **Validate Paths:**  
   Ensure the RESULTS\_PATH is correctly set to the directory used for storing test results.
2. **Use in Pipelines:**  
   Add the utility as a step in CI/CD pipelines or test runner scripts for consistent execution.
3. **Avoid Unintended Deletion:**  
   Confirm that the Results directory path is correctly specified to prevent unintended file deletions elsewhere.

**Example Output**

**Before Execution:**

lua

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RobotPython/Results/

├── log.html

├── report.html

├── output.xml

├── Screenshots/

**After Cleanup:**

mathematica

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RobotPython/Results/ (Empty directory)

**Conclusion**

The Clear Results utility is a simple but essential tool for maintaining clean test execution environments. By ensuring the Results directory is cleared before each run, it prevents potential issues caused by residual files or folders from previous executions.