MEDIA RELEASE

Brussels, February 4, 2020

ISTQB® releases new Certified Tester: Advanced Level Syllabus (2019-1) Test Analyst (CTAL-TA), and Advanced Level Syllabus (2019) Technical Test Analyst (CTAL-TTA)

The ISTQB® General Assembly has approved the new 2019 versions of the ISTQB® Certified Tester Advanced Level Test Analyst and Advanced Level Technical Test Analyst syllabi for general release.

The ISTQB® Certified Tester Advanced Level Test Manager 2012 syllabus has not been updated yet so remains alongside the two new syllabi to form the 'Full' Core ISTQB® Certified Tester Advanced Level with the following accredited training lengths:

- Advanced Test Manager – 5 Days

- Advanced Test Analyst – 3 Days

- Advanced Technical Test Analyst – 3 Days

An overview of the main changes in the 2019 versions compared with the 2012 versions can be found on the ISTQB website.
Core Advanced Level is the long-standing progression from the ISTQB® Foundation Level syllabus in the ISTQB® Certified Tester Scheme, providing in-depth understanding and knowledge to role-based software testing activities. The updates reflect market feedback conducted by an independent marketing research organization and the current state of the software testing industry. This includes rationalizing some content to focus on the topics considered most important from the survey.

The release consists of the two new syllabi, each supported by Glossary keyword items, Business Outcomes with Learning Objectives traceability, sample exam questions plus an Overview document, Accreditation guidelines and Exam Structure and Rules.

The ISTQB® has provided the new (2019) Advanced Level Test Analyst and Advanced Level Technical Test Analyst syllabi as follows:

1. To ISTQB® Member Boards, to translate into their local language and to accredit training providers. Member boards may adapt the syllabus to their particular language needs and modify the references to adapt to their local glossary terms.

2. To certification bodies, to derive examination questions in their local language adapted to the learning objectives for this syllabus

3. To training providers, to produce courseware and determine appropriate teaching methods

4. To certification candidates, to prepare for the certification exam (either as part of a training course or independently)

5. To the international software and systems engineering community, to advance the profession of software and systems testing, and as a basis for books and articles

The following sunset rules are effective
Training Provider Accreditation – note that the following only affects the Advanced Level Test Analyst and Advanced Level Technical Test Analyst syllabi. The 2012 version of Advanced Test Manager is currently NOT affected by the changes below and continues in force.

It is important for all current Advanced Level Test Analyst and Technical Test Analyst Training Providers to note that the scale of the changes in the 2019 Advanced Level means that **partial re-accreditation** of the courses will be required:
- Until **4th February 2021** all training providers must accredit/re-accredit for the (2019) syllabus if training/material is accredited for delivery in **English**.
- Until **4th August 2021** all training providers must accredit/re-accredit for the (2019) syllabus if training/material is accredited for delivery in a **non-English** language.

Exams:
- On **4th February 2021** all **English** language 2012 Advanced Level Test Analyst and Technical Test Analyst syllabus exams will be withdrawn
- On **4th August 2021** all **non-English** language 2012 Advanced Level Test Analyst and Technical Test Analyst syllabus exams will be withdrawn

'Grandfathering'
All holders of Advanced Test Manager, Test Analyst, Technical Test Analyst from earlier syllabus versions and of preceding schemes are considered to be grandfathered for the purposed of fulfilling pre-requisite requirements for other ISTQB® syllabi. This is also the case for receiving a "Full Advanced" certificate when a Certified tester successfully achieves certification on all three modules from any version of the syllabus.
Further Information is available from the ISTQB® website.

"The two syllabi we are releasing are a big step forward. We are updating our portfolio based on market feedback. We have been in contact with lots of training providers and certified professionals, and have updated the syllabi according to their requirements and the recent market developments." Said Olivier Denoo, ISTQB® President.

 "The two syllabi of Advanced level released, are a direct response to market feedback and needs. It also is a natural step for ISTQB® for increasing the absorption of these two advanced level syllabi in the market, which will help accredited training providers to provide in shorter course duration" – says *Alon Linetzki*, ISTQB® Marketing Working Group Chair.

"The release of the 2019 Advanced Level product represents a major milestone, and is the culmination of a lot of hard work by many people across the world over the past two years. Following the release of the ISTQB® Foundation Level 2018 syllabus it was important to align Core Advanced Level syllabi with that syllabus. The process starts with the release of these two syllabi and our efforts are now focused on both Advanced Test Manager and also Expert Level" said *Mike Smith,* ISTQB® Core Advanced and Expert Level Syllabus Working Group Chair.

Media Contact:

Mike Smith, ISTQB® Chair of Core Advanced and Expert Level Syllabus Working Group, mike.smith@istqb.org
Alon Linetzki, ISTQB® Chair of Marketing Working Group, alon.linetzki@istqb.org

About ISTQB®

The International Software Testing Qualifications Board (ISTQB®) was founded in November 2002 and is a non-profit organization, headquartered in Brussels, Belgium, whose mission is to advance the software testing profession.

ISTQB® has defined the "ISTQB® Certified Tester" scheme that has become the world-wide leader in the certification of competences in software testing.

It is supported in its mission by 63 member boards. ISTQB® has today a world-wide coverage and has administered, with the help of its Global partners, as of October 2019 over 920,000 exams, issuing over 673,000 certificates.

ISTQB® is an organization based on volunteer work by hundreds of software testing experts around the world. To find out more about ISTQB visit: www.istqb.org