**Shokat Ali Sidat**

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A dedicated and proactive Testing Professional with extensive cross-industry experience complemented by significant technical expertise and business acumen. A specialist in UNIX / Linux operating systems who possesses comprehensive programming abilities and over 15 years testing experience. Quick to grasp new ideas and concepts whilst identifying innovative solutions to complex issues which maximise potential and efficiency without compromising service. Proven in successfully delivering business critical projects to strict deadlines, client specifications and within budget. Possesses a keen eye for detail and a commitment to delivering excellent service and producing work of the highest quality. Capable of working effectively on own initiative, and without the need for external supervision, with the proven ability to achieve set targets, deadlines and objectives.

* More than 25 years experience in software design, development, implementation and testing
* Expertise in test automation, performance and load testing, developing ETL tools
* Extensive knowledge of Unix / Linux systems and open source tools Jmeter, Wireshark
* Experienced in all forms of testing i.e Regression, System, Integration, E2E, UAT, Stress, Operational
* Testing methodologies used include V model and Agile scrum
* Responsibilities have included taking technical lead roles, mentoring junior staff and offshore teams
* Functional testing of Web services using Jmeter / soapUI.
* Experienced in preparing Test plans, Test scripts, Requirement analysis, Execution, Bug reporting and management
* Over 10 years software development experience in C, Fortran and Shell Scripting before moving into testing
* Expertise in Excel to VBA macro programming
* Very strong data crunching and analysis skills using SQL, Excel VBA programming and awk scripting
* Groovy scripting

**Skills and Expertise:**

Jmeter / Soap UI Data Analytics bash / shell / awk scripting SQL / Oracle databases

Test Automation Jira / Quality Centre Excel VBA macros Performance / Load testing

Selenium RC / IDE Agile scrum testing Google Drive / OneDrive Test environment setup / support

Soap / Rest / Curl Java / .Net environments C, Fortran Unix / Linux / windows systems

**Experience:**

**Siemens –** [www.siemens.co.uk](http://www.siemens.co.uk) **Jan 2016 to Oct 2016**

(A global company providing energy solutions, electrification, automation, digitalisation, rail applications across the world)

**Software Test Engineer (contract)**

Worked on testing the Crossrail Control and Communications system, which is a SCADA (**S**upervisory **C**ontrol **A**nd **D**ata **A**cquisition **S**ystem) system. Being the sole Test Engineer on the project and working with four different development teams, main responsibilities have included planning all the functional and regression testing, defect testing and ensuring that the testing meets the required standards.

* Testing includes regression, system, integration and performance in an agile environment.
* Perform gap analysis and prepare system for FAT testing handover to end client.
* Work with development teams and SME’s to resolve and manage defects to a satisfactory resolution.
* Create test scripts using requirement documents.
* Configure test data for use in simulating RTU equipment.
* Preparing and validating software builds.

**Communisis** – www.communisis.com **Sep 2014 to Dec 2015**

(A company known for providing multi-channel digital services to blue chip companies across Europe)

**QA Engineer (contract)**

Worked on Nationwide Building Society projects on multi-channel marketing (SMS, Email, Print). Main responsibilities included the following:

* Functional testing of the application at different stages.
* Developed tools in bash and awk to extract, transform and load large volume data sets for use in performance and load testing, MI report testing.
* Developed test strategy for Regression, Performance and load testing.
* Automated regression test packs using Jmeter and bash scripts.
* Web services functional testing using soap UI.
* Worked with end client to support UAT and provide data support.
* Developed tools to automate and facilitate testing as appropriate.

**Deluxe Digital Media** – www.deluxedigital.co.uk **Feb 2014 to Aug 2014**

(A global reputation for incomparable service, the strongest production values and a continual commitment to technical investment and innovation)

**Test Automation Engineer (contract)**

Responsible for working on a digital content archive management system, where my responsibilities included automating test activities and provide Load and Performance testing expertise to the project. My duties included:

* Functional testing of the application being developed. This involved working with appropriate scrum teams and testing new features as these were being developed, both for the UI frontend and backend processing.
* Developed bash scripts to load test concurrent usage for some of the application features being developed, where appropriate.
* Developed the test strategy for Performance and load testing of the UI.
* Developed bash scripts for capturing performance stats on Linux servers for cpu, memory and disk space monitoring.
* Developed bash scripts for automating tasks like checking Tomcat log files for errors, extracting log file entries for a specific day, server process checks, rpm version checks, consistency checks etc.
* Developed tools to facilitate the testing as appropriate.

**Thales** – www.thalesgroup.com **Dec 2011 to Feb 2014**

(A multinational company that designs and builds electrical systems and provides services for the aerospace, defence, transportation and security market)

**Software Test Engineer (contract)**

Responsibility for Thales on the National Traffic Information System project for the Highway Agency, who provide travel information to the road users in England in real time. My duties included:

* Configured Jmeter for Load and Performance testing of the new Beta Traffic England website ([www.trafficengland.com](http://www.trafficengland.com)) and a UI tool being developed for the Highway Agency control centre operators.
* Developed bash scripts to generate high volume traffic data for simulating real time traffic.
* Configured Jmeter to simulate concurrent web users on Traffic England to determine whether expected usage targets will be met.
* Setup Jmeter data to test HATMS Gateway, a tool used by the Highway Agency for controlling motorway signs. The testing involved generating SOAP UI XML messaging setup for stress, load, soak and performance testing.
* Developed bash scripts for capturing performance stats on Linux application and web servers for cpu, memory and disk space monitoring.
* Responsible for the planning, execution and maintenance of regression tests, smoke tests and environment checks.
* Provide technical support to test, database and development teams as appropriate.
* Train and mentor junior members of staff.
* System and integrate test the network model data editor.
* Install and configure third party software and simulators for testing external input data streams.
* Technical lead for the test team.

**Kantar Media** – www.kantarmedia.co.uk **Jun 2011 to Dec 2011**

(A well-established brand of trusted media analysts and advisors)

**Business Test Analyst (contract)**

Responsible for Kantar Media Audiences, who provide Internet, Television and Radio audience measurement services in over 30 countries. Broadcasters use audience estimates to evaluate the success of programs and to devise future programming schedules. Their information is also used by commercial TV stations, advertising agencies and advertisers to negotiate prices for commercial airtime and to plan TV advertising campaigns accordingly. Key responsibilities include:

* Define Test Cases, Test Conditions and Test Plans
* Install and manually configure the application under test on the test servers
* Identify and maintain relevant test data
* Automate test environment setup processes on Linux servers using bash scripts
* Document and report test results

**IBM** – www.ibm.com **Jul 2010 to Jun 2011**

(Multinational technology and consulting corporation)

**Software Test Engineer (contract)**

Responsibility for the Platform Technology Centre (PTC) within IBM, whose primary objective is to verify that IBM is legally allowed to commercially sell the software, owned by a recently acquired company and test the porting of applications across different platforms.

* Main task involved performing Due Diligence work on Open Source Software (OSS), which involved working with IBM attorneys to check a project's pedigree. The pedigree review looks into the ownership and background of the OSS. Due diligence work involves performing code scans and analysis, web investigations on licensing and other issues, followed by appropriate project enquiries with other IBM teams and external parties
* Developed a unix file scanning tool using shell scripts, to run on Solaris and Linux, which allows users to scan a selected directory structure or files for keyword searches defined in a configuration file. The tool caters for processing most file types, including binaries, jar, rpm, zip, tar and other compressed formats found on unix and linux systems

**Websense**– www.websense.com **Mar 2010 to Jul 2010**

(Protects organisations from the latest cyber-attacks and data theft with unified web security, email security, mobile security and data security)

**Software Test Engineer (contract)**

* Executing regression, functional and performance tests and identifying test cases which can be automated for testing a Web proxy server and automation work for functional testing of secure Web usage
* Developed selenium test suites to automate testing currently using manual execution for system and regression tests
* Developed Linux shell scripts in bash, to facilitate and automate manual testing tasks

**Synmantec**– www.synmantec.com **Nov 2009 to Dec 2009**

(Provides internet security with Norton Antivirus, data recovery, and spam blocker software for business and the home)

* Responsible for automating a large set of regression test scripts to run on Linux servers, utilizing the smtp test tool. Main task involved developing Unix shell scripts on the bash to automate the regression testing process, for checking rules based email contents on mail servers running under Linux
* Provide support to ensure test environment is configured and maintained correctly to meet the requirements for the regression testing

**E.on**– www.eonenergy.com **Sep 2008 to Jan 2009**

(One of the world's largest investor-owned electric utility service provider)

* Development of test scripts and the collation and presentation of test data under a .NET environment
* Extraction of test data from an Oracle database using Toad and SQL Navigator and migration of code from development to testing using Dimension

**Vega (Galileo Project)** **Feb 2008** to **Sep 2008**

(Software for the European Space Agency to manage the complex messaging functionality and communications systems of the Galileo Satellite)

**Integration Test Engineer (contract)**

Responsible for the provision of integration and system testing on a simulation system that utilises emulators and test stubs to measure messaging functionality. Working with 10 Redhat Linux servers each configured with 4 Lans for network load distribution and accountable for the integration, execution and validation of test plans and environments using industry recognised methodologies

**Experian** – Data Test Analyst **Aug 2007 to Jan 2008**

**IBM –** Test Analyst **Nov 2006 to Jun 2007**

**Tesco Stores –** Analyst Programmer / Test Analyst **May 1996 to Sep 2006**

**British Rail Research –** Analyst Programmer **1989 to 1996**

**GEC large Machines** **–** Engineering Programmer **1987 to 1989**

**Department of Trade and Industry** **–** Assistant Statistician **1985 to 1987**

**Recommendations on LinkedIn:**

**Mike Robson - Head of Quality Assurance and Testing (Communisis)**

“Shokat is probably one of the very best SQA Engineers I have had the privilege to work with. He is technical, adaptable, dependable, knowledgeable, honest and a pleasure to work with. An asset to any company in so many ways. I would have no hesitation in employing Shokat.”

**Dr Matthew Higgins – Senior Lecturer in Marketing (University of Leicester)**

“I worked with Shokat on a networked spreadsheet solution for the University of Leicester School of Management. Shokat listened to our business need, offered suggestions on possible options and delivered a practical and user friendly solution which exceeded what we originally hoped for.”

**Professional and Academic Qualification:**

**BSc** Mathematics **1985**

Advanced C Programming **1991**

Linux Server Installation and Configuration: Hands-On **2002**

Advanced PC Configuration, Troubleshooting and Data Recovery **2002**

A+ Hardware and Software Certification **2002**

Hands-On PC Configuration and Troubleshooting **2002**

PC Service and Support Certified Professional **2003**

Hands-On PC Networking **2003**