

## **Nicolai Negru**

phone: +44 7974 429838 (M)

email: [negru.n@gmail.com](mailto:negru.n@gmail.com)

### **Summary**

A software test professional with 15 years of experience in quality assurance including design from scratch and rollout of testing operating models, improving existing testing processes, designing and putting in place testing infrastructure, planning testing activities, test automation, organising communication and reporting channels with key stakeholders, recruiting and mentoring team members.

Good understanding of various software development methodologies - iterative (Agile - Scrum), and sequential models (V-model). Strong technical skills including commercial and open source test automation tools, data warehouse / ETL testing.

### **Education**

2009 – 2011 Executive MBA at CASS Business School (mentoring MBA students from 2012)  
2001 – 2003 BCs Information Technology  
1995 – 2000 Bachelor of Economics (Finance and Insurance)

### **Professional Certificates**

- ISTQB Agile Tester, 2015
- ISTQB Advanced Test Manager, 2011
- Prince2 Foundation, 2009
- ISTQB Software Testing Foundation, 2008

### **Quality Assurance Skills**

- development, communication and implementation of testing processes and strategies
- planning QA activities and managing testing teams (including offshore)
- design, implementation and management of testing environments
- assessing system's readiness and economic feasibility of test automation
- development of new and optimisation of existing test automation frameworks

### **Development and testing tools**

- Web Driver, QuickTest Professional (QTP), WebAii, TestComplete
- HP Quality Center, Jira, Microsoft TFS and Test Manager, TestRail
- C#, Python, SQL, JavaScript, some Java

### **Training courses:**

- [Python](#) Coursera specialisation, University of Michigan, 2016
- MongoDB for Developers, Mongo University, 2015
- Introduction into Databases, Stanford online, 2013 (distinction)

### **Languages:**

English  
Russian  
Romanian

**Software Engineer at [Equal Experts](#)** (clients: [Klarna](#), [John Lewis](#)), Mar 2018 - present

- Setting up quality assurance processes within scrum team
- Pair-programming while implementing new features and fixing defects (Kotlin, JavaScript, React)
- full stack test automation (unit, API, UI, accessibility - Python, Kotlin, Selenium, Cypress, aXe)
- On-call support - troubleshooting of issues, supporting other teams consuming our services

**Senior Test Consultant at [Gazprom Marketing and Trading](#)**, Jul 2017 - Mar 2018

- Driving standardisation of software development process within project team
- Performing quality assurance activities as part of regulatory projects team (REMIT, EMIR, MIFID II) - test design, execution, reporting, defect management
- test automation - C#, Specflow, Entity Framework, RESTful API, MS SQL, TFS, json, xml
- as a result - 6 months long project went live with 0 defects

**Scrum Master and Agile Test Consultant at [UnderwriteMe](#)**, Jan 2016 – Jul 2017

- Design, proposal and rollout of Agile Operating Model
- Assuring all agreed scrum ceremonies take place, driving process improvement at the back of feedback from retrospective meetings and from external stakeholders
- Assessment, evaluation, comparison and company-wide rollout of test management tool
- Full stack agile testing (test approach, test design, automation, execution, reporting) of a greenfield project (HTML5 & AngularJS, RESTful API, MySQL, Jenkins, Groovy - Geb, Spock, Scala - Gatling)
- as a result - 18 months long project went live with 1 minor issue (proved to be a requirements gap)

**Test Automation Manager at [Deutsche Bank](#) (Market Risk)**, Oct 2015 – Jan 2016

- Setting up testing function (operating model, test strategy, plans, reports)
- Analysis and design of Test Automation framework (Java, WebDriver, HTML5, AngularJS)

**Test Automation Lead at [Compare the Market](#)**, Apr 2015 – Oct 2015

- Just-in- Time test planning, communicating and coordinating test approaches (when needed)
- Working closely with BA to define acceptance criteria and with DEV to verify implementation
- Automating UI and performance tests (C#, WebDriver/Coypu, SauceLabs, Locust / Python)

**Test Manager at [Barclays Capital](#) (Credit Risk Trading)**, Sep 2013 – Apr 2015

- Re-design of existing testing processes to align with company-wide transition towards Agile
- Building and leading distributed testing teams (15 people in 3 countries, working in 6 work streams) from release planning to User Acceptance Testing and release sign-off
- Reviewing business specifications and assuring quality of test planning, test case design (task, user story, feature, system, integration level and UAT), test execution and reporting
- Rolling out test management (Quality Center) and test automation (C#, Python, WebDriver)

## **Test Lead / Consultant at Microsoft, Sep 2011 – August 2013**

List of projects I worked on:

- Faster Payment / 7 Days Switch / CHAPS / Mobile Banking for [Nationwide](#)
- Custom-built CRM system for [WPP](#)
- Collaboration and document standardisation system for [UBS](#)
- Smart Card Identity Agent for [NHS](#)

My role comprised:

- analysis of system requirements and development of test approaches and designs
- design, configuration and maintenance of testing infrastructure
- streamlining creation of test data and validation scripts (Python, C#)
- implementation, execution and maintenance of automated test scenarios (XML, SQL)
- automation of environment deployment routines and processing outputs (Python, C#)

## **Test Lead at Endava LTD, Jan 2006 – Sep 2011**

**Project:** multiple projects for [Kiln](#) (insurance and reinsurance), 2008 – 2011

Kiln is a leading international insurance and reinsurance underwriting group specialising in complex, unusual risks, and is the fourth largest agency trading in Lloyd's insurance market.

- development of the testing documentation – strategies, approaches and designs
- team management - interviewing, mentoring and managing testing team
- assessing feasibility and cost-efficiency of test automation solutions (QTP, WebAll)
- ETL testing - verification of Business Objects' data flows, transferring data among data warehouses and various data marts (MS SQL, Subversion)
- test automation using Python and Java

**Project:** back-end testing for [RBS Invoice Finance](#) (retail banking), Sep 2010 – Feb 2011

RBS Invoice Finance is part of the Royal Bank of Scotland Group and is the largest provider of invoice finance solutions in the UK.

- analysis and presentation of business cases for testing activities
- reviewing and improving existing test processes by introducing best practices
- working with project management on project plans, monitoring and reporting test progress

**Project:** eChoice project for [RSA](#), June – Sep 2010

RSA is a FTSE 100 insurance company. The main goal of the project was to perform quality control of the new system allowing clients to customise insurance packages according to their requirements.

- defect management (risk-based prioritisation, planning, verification and reporting)
- redesign and optimisation of the existing test automation infrastructure (Python, VBA)
- implementing reporting solution to reflect requirements coverage and test progress (SQL)

**Project:** Pricing and Settlement System for [NYSE Euronext](#), Aug 2008 – Jan 2009

NYSE Euronext's Pricing and Settlement System ("PSS") system was developed to automatically update the implied volatility calculations used within the pricing model.

- working closely with other discipline leaders on release schedules and defects prioritisation
- coordinating testing activities of on- and off-shore testing teams
- defects management - prioritisation, monitoring and reporting progress (Rational ClearQuest)
- development, execution and maintenance of automated tests (Python, SQL, C#)

**Project:** Cision Point ([Cision](#), USA - offshore), Jul 2007 – Jan 2008

*CisionPoint* - integrated customised dashboard - the on-demand tool used to create, execute and evaluate marketing research and promotion campaigns.

- developing Functional and Non-Functional test cases
- providing test summary reports and end of test reports to reflect progress and issues
- assuring quality and coverage of unit-tests (NUnit, NCover)

**Project:** Faster Payments Service ([VocaLink](#), UK), Nov 2006 – Jul 2007

FPS is a banking initiative in the United Kingdom to improve the speed of person-to-person and business-to-business payments to near real time.

- analysis of system requirements, development and documenting of test condition
- implementation of automated test-validation framework (VersaTest,C#)
- automatically validating and correcting existing test scripts and generating new ones based on the requirement mapping documents (Python)
- providing test support to the business during User Acceptance Test Preparation and Execution.

**Software Developer at Alcetis Ltd** (for [VMP Mortgage Solutions](#), USA), Jan 2005 – Jan 2006

- collecting and analysing project specifications
- design, and implementation of data models (C#, VB6, MS SQL, XML Web Services)
- implementing Continuous Integration environment to control quality aspects of the project (CruiseControl.NET, Nant, NUnit, Subversion)

**Information & Financial Auditor at various retail banks**, Jul 2000 – Jan 2005

Analysing information flows throughout the organisations and identification of inefficiencies and information security risks. Performing IT security audit controls to assure availability, confidentiality and correctness of financial information.