University of Victoria

Participant Consent Form

Thanks for participating! Please read the following to understand the nature of this research and how we'll manage your data.

Contacts

If you have any questions or concerns about this research, please feel free to contact any of the members of our research team: Omar Elazhary (omazhary@uvic.ca), Margaret-Anne Storey (mstorey@uvic.ca), and Neil Ernst (nernst@uvic.ca). You may also verify the ethical approval of this study, or raise any concerns by contacting the Human Research Ethics Office at the University of Victoria (+1 250-472-4545 or ethics@uvic.ca).

Participant Selection

You are being asked to participate in this study because you are a computer science/software engineering student at the University of Victoria.

Risks

Participation in this study may cause some inconvenience to you, including brief distractions from your current activities. In order to minimize this inconvenience, the survey will be conducted online at your convenience. Please note that this research does not collect information about individual performance in any way.

Benefits

The potential benefits of your participation in this research include a better understanding of how the current software development automation tools fit into your workflow as you are developing and submitting software. The research will result in improved solutions that will benefit you and teams in their daily work. You will also acquire hands-on experience with software development automation tools commonly used in industry.

Voluntary Participation

Your participation in this research is completely voluntary. If you do decide to participate, you may withdraw at any time without any consequences or any explanation. If you do withdraw from the study (do not click the Submit button), your data will not be submitted, saved, or used in any form. Click the Submit button only if you agree to voluntarily participate.

Anonymity

This survey is completely anonymous and we do not require your email address. Only your participant ID (which maps back to your consent form) will be used as a means of identification. Should you choose to provide your email address, it will only be used to disseminate the results of this study.

Confidentiality

The survey data and your identity will be protected by restricted and secure computers located in our research lab at the University of Victoria. Only the research investigators will be able to access the data once it is downloaded from the server that hosts the survey.

Please be advised that this survey may use tools that store data in the U.S. As such, there is a possibility that information about you that is gathered for this research study may be accessed without your knowledge or consent by the U.S. government in compliance with the U.S. Freedom Act.

Dissemination of Results

It is anticipated that the results of this study will be shared with others in the following ways: theses, dissertations, published articles or books, presentations at scholarly meetings, on the Internet, and directly to the participants involved (if requested to be notified of results).

Disposal of Data

Data collected will be disposed of 3 years after the beginning of the study. All survey data collected and backups will be electronically deleted.

By completing and submitting this survey, **YOUR FREE AND INFORMED CONSENT IS IMPLIED** and indicates that you understand the above conditions of participation in this study.