

# Effective Automation For **COLLABORATION** **APPLICATIONS**



Maintaining an automated testing suite for  
improved accuracy and faster release

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## The Role of Automation in Collaboration

Cloud collaboration applications offer a variety of features that help streamline workflows and reduce friction between teams. Many of these features are complex, making them susceptible to breakage during heavy data exchange or release operations. In order to test your application and its features thoroughly, as well as verify new fixes, regression cycles should be performed.

However, manual regression testing is time-consuming and prone to error. By automating your regression cycles, you can improve the accuracy of your tests and achieve faster product releases.

### Common Collaboration Features

These features add great versatility to your product, but not without added complexity:

- User management modules
- Third-party integration
- Application configurations
- Sales overviews
- History
- Reports

Automated testing services help expedite the regression testing required to verify the functionality of these features.

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## Select the Right Framework Architecture

An appropriate framework is essential for a maintainable automation testing suite for your collaboration application. The framework you select should follow relevant design standards, such as factory patterns. These help create independent modules for code that can be reused, controlled, and maintained easily.

Frameworks with these standards will allow you to create tests that are independent from each other, but that are easily harnessed to maintain workflows. These types of automation frameworks are beneficial to collaboration applications because the multiple interface layers (client/users, administration modules, reports, etc.) can be maintained and tested independently.

Since most collaboration applications work over an internet connection, your framework should also be able to handle any timeout during automation.

For more about selecting the right automation tool and framework, download our free [\*\*“A Guide to Selecting the Best Automation Tool”\*\*](#) guide.

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## Use Effective Test Flow

Maintaining the integrity of user data is one of your primary concern, and an authentication process helps ensure optimal security. Your tests should proceed only after the proper user requisites are verified. Following completion of the test cycle, the footprints of the test should be wiped away to ensure complete data security.

Failures during the test run should be handled effectively, and proper logging and reporting will show the cause of each issue with the application.

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## Utilize API Functions

Collaboration applications communicate primarily using Web Services. To effectively implement user workflows and maintain test data, you should utilize your API's available functions. Reduced test execution time and increased reliability of test results are both benefits of API utilization during initialization and teardown phases.

### API Testing Advantages

Utilizing your API during automation provides four key advantages:

- The ability to test for core functionality
- Time-effectiveness
- Language-independence
- Easy integration with GUI testing

To see these advantages in detail view our blog post, "[API Test Toolkit: Advantages of API Testing](#)".

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## QASource Collaboration Services

Collaboration applications require specific QA services to ensure that a versatile, high-quality product is released to users. The right automation framework, an effective test flow, and thorough API testing will help streamline time-consuming regression test cycles, improve the quality of your application, and help you achieve faster releases. To learn about the services QASource can provide for your collaboration application, [visit our microsite](#).

Was this guide helpful? If so, please share it with your network on LinkedIn. For information about QA services, the latest testing technology updates, and more, [follow us on LinkedIn](#).

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## Quality That Creates Value

QASource employs a well-trained team of dedicated QA engineers who specialize in testing new software product development in mobile, cloud, and desktop applications. Our goal is to optimize our client's software quality assurance efforts while meeting their objectives and schedules. We know how to "go beyond the checklist" to deploy high-capability test practices resulting in high-quality software releases, time after time. Our key strengths have enabled us to complete hundreds of successful engagements for clients throughout the world and guarantee a level of expertise and knowledge that other firms don't provide.

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