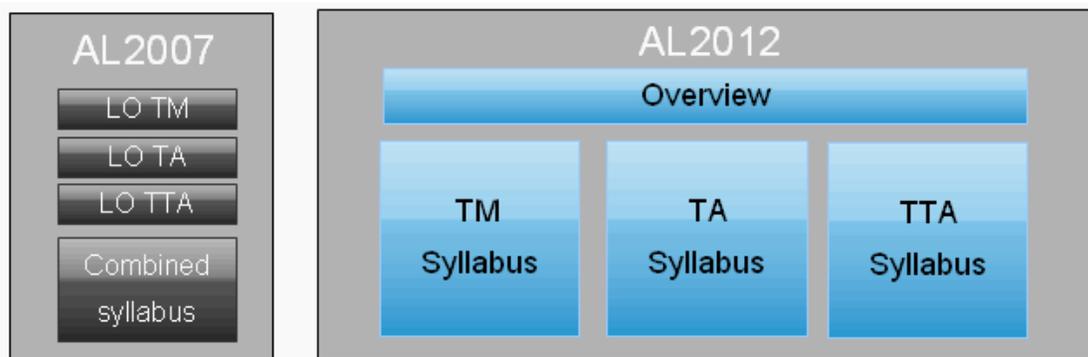# 2012 ISTQB® ADVANCED LEVEL – BETA VERSION RELEASED

Brussels, Belgium, 07 August 2012 – At the ISTQB® General Assembly meeting in Tallinn (June 2012), the Beta Version of the 2012 ISTQB® Advanced Level was approved for release in line with the Release Plan drawn up by the Advanced Level Working Group at the end of 2011.

The Beta release consists of an overview document plus 3 separate, distinct syllabi for Advanced Test Manager, Advanced Test Analyst and Advanced Technical Test Analyst. In addition, sample questions for each syllabus have been made available by the Exam Working Group. An overview of the main changes in the 2012 version compared with the 2007 version can be found in the news document published in May 2012 regarding the new 2012 ISTQB® Advanced Level at www.istqb.org. This covers the key areas of:

- Improved Scoping
- Clearer Organization of the Syllabus
- Business Outcomes (BO) Now Form the Basis for the Advanced Syllabi
- Improved Learning Objectives (LO)
- Changes to the Test Management (TM) Syllabus
- Changes to the Test Analyst (TA) Syllabus
- Changes to the Technical Test Analyst (TTA) Syllabus
- Release Plan
- Note for Existing Training Providers Regarding Accreditation

In line with the scoping and clearer organization previously announced, the length of each syllabus has been rationalized as follows:

- Advanced Test Manager – 5 Days
- Advanced Test Analyst – 4 Days
- Advanced Technical Test Analyst – 3 Days

The ISTQB® Advanced Level syllabi are being implemented according to a formal release plan and process. The release process ensures that critical supporting deliverables are available on a timely basis, including updates to the Glossary, Accreditation Process, and the Exam Structure and Rules as well as sample exam questions for all syllabus learning objectives.

The earliest possible live release date for the syllabi is October 2012 with December 2012 being the earliest date for new exams. There will be a six month period during which the old syllabus (2007), courses and exams will be phased out for English Language versions, with a three month lag for non-English versions. An additional three months will be allowed for exam re-takes against the 2007 syllabus.

Mike Smith, Chair of the ISTQB® Advanced Level Working Group (ALWG), says "the release of the 2012 Advanced Level Beta version in line with the release plan represents a major milestone, and is the culmination of a lot of hard work by many people across the world over the past 2 years. This Beta version is considered by the ISTQB® ALWG to be 'market ready' for the use of National Boards (for translation and accreditation purposes), Training Providers (to design their course material) and Exam Boards (to design exam questions). It is important for all current Advanced Level Training Providers to note that the scale of the changes in the 2012 Advanced Level means that full re-accreditation of courses will be required."

Yaron Tsubery, President of ISTQB® says "The new 2012 Advanced Level brings another important step to the community and the industry, moving the ISTQB® one step ahead towards the future. I believe this new beta version, together with the final version to be released towards the end of this year, is in line with the industry and the practitioners needs and will ensure the growth of professionalism in the software testing domain. The new 2012 Advanced Level is enabling those who took the Foundation Level to move forward and expand their knowledge, while advancing and aligning their career paths following a unified, international standard."

About ISTQB®

The International Software Testing Qualifications Board is a non-profit organization, headquartered in Brussels, Belgium, whose mission is to advance the software testing profession. It is supported in its operations by 46 member boards, representing over 70 countries.

Further Information:

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