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**ISTQB® prepares for additional syllabi to be released on Test Automation and Usability testing**

At the ISTQB® General Assembly meeting in Singapore (March 2016), ISTQB® approved for Beta Release two new modules:

- Test Automation Engineering
- Usability Tester (developed in co-operation with the German Testing Board)

The new modules fit naturally into the Specialist Stream of the recently re-defined architecture of the ISTQB® Product Portfolio.

The final review round will take place within the next months. It is expected that general availability will take place after the next ISTQB® GA, planned for October 2016.

Major topics covered by the current version of the Test Automation Engineering syllabus are:

- Introduction and Objectives for Test Automation
- Preparing for Test Automation
- The Generic Test Automation Architecture
- Deployment Risks and Contingencies
- Test Automation Reporting and Metrics
- Transitioning Manual Testing to an Automated Environment
- Verifying the Test Automated Solution
- Continuous Improvement

“Test Automation is identified today as one of the top-priorities for optimizing the coverage and the ROI of testing, both in Agile and traditional SDLCs”, said Andrew L. Pollner – American Software Testing Qualifications Board, who is leading the release; “the high demand for test automation convinced us to re-position it at Advanced Level, with the ISTQB® Core Foundation level certificate as pre-condition to take the exam”
As far as Usability Tester is concerned, major topics covered by the current syllabus are:

- Basic Concepts of usability testing
- Risks in usability, user experience, and accessibility
- Usability and accessibility standards
- Selecting appropriate methods
- Usability reviews
- Usability testing
- User surveys
- Role of the Usability Tester

“With the advent of Digital economy, usability testing is a growing area of concern” declared Graham Bath from German Testing Board “and we are excited to see this as a further step in the ISTQB® scheme of educating more testers in the field.”

“With the Advance level Test Automation – Engineering, and with the Usability Testing certifications, ISTQB® will allow managers and engineers to improve and acquire knowledge in needed domains”, said Alon Linetzki, Chair of the Marketing Working Group – “it is with those certifications and more to come, that ISTQB® is aligning its portfolio, enabling engineers and managers to leverage their day to day work, using an international certification, which encapsulates knowledge, standards and good practices from all over the world”, Alon Linetzki added.

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**About ISTQB®**
The International Software Testing Qualifications Board (ISTQB®) was founded in November 2002 and is a non-profit organization, headquartered in Brussels, Belgium, whose mission is to advance the software testing profession. ISTQB® has defined the "ISTQB® Certified Tester” scheme that has become the worldwide leader in the certification of competences in software testing. It is supported in its mission by over 50 member boards. Thanks also to the Global Exam Providers, it has today a world-wide coverage and has administered as of December 2015 over 600.000 exams, issuing over 440.000 certificates

ISTQB® is an organization based on volunteer work by hundreds of software testing experts around the world.

To find out more about ISTQB visit: www.istqb.org