

## Q-Tap Leads the Way for Software Testing Industry in Malaysia

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*Malaysian Software Testing Board (MSTB) launches the Quality – Test Assist Programme (Q-Tap) to help local companies build software testing capability.p>*

**Kuala Lumpur, 21 April 2011:** The Malaysian Software Testing Board (MSTB) has unveiled Quality – Test Assist Programme (Q-Tap), specifically designed to assist local companies and organisation acquire software testing skills and develop the capability to conduct professional testing on their own products.



(left- to-right) Amiruddin Jaafar Sidek, Director, Malaysian Software Testing Board, Fathil Sulaiman Ismail, Managing Director, Mesiniaga Berhad, Mastura Abu Samah, President, Malaysian Software Testing Board, YB Datuk Hj Fadillah bin Yusof, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Science, Technology, and Innovation, and Dr. Gopi Kurup, CEO, TM Research and Development, launching the Quality – Test Assist Programme (Q-Tap), designed to aid local companies acquire professional software testing skills.

CEOs, marketing directors, and heads of the IT departments from multinational companies, SMEs, and the government sector, attended the event launched by Datuk Haji Fadillah bin Haji Yusof, Deputy Minister of Science, Technology, and Innovation.

An agreement was also signed between MSTB and Telekom Research and Development at the launch ceremony for Telekom Research and Development's participation in Q-Tap.



Mastura Abu Samah, President, Malaysian Software Testing Board, and Dr. Gopi Kurup, CEO, TM Research and Development, signing an MOU at the launch of Q-Tap. Witnessing the signing agreement are (l-r) Fathil Sulaiman Ismail, Managing Director, Mesiniaga Berhad, YB datuk Hj Fadillah bin Yusof, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Science, Technology, and Innovation, and Amiruddin Jaafar Sidek, Director, Malaysian Software Testing Board.

"Though TM R&D's quality framework includes software testing, CMMI, ISO compliance and certification, TM R&D has embarked on Q-Tap to formalize and strengthen our in-house software testing capability to ensure

professional testing for our products to meet the required quality assurance. Q-Tap will expose our team to the latest testing tools and methodologies used globally. The continued support of the program is essential in ensuring that Malaysia has the necessary software testing capability and capacity which is an important and integral part of the national ICT R&D aspirations", said Dr. Gopi Kurup, CEO, TM Research and Development.

Q-Tap is another programme introduced under the Malaysia Software Testing Hub (MSTH), and is an integral part of the Malaysian government's concerted effort to develop the growth of software testing in the country. The program includes training and certification of members of the software testing teams from participating companies and organisations. Throughout the duration of the programme, participants will be exposed to the testing tools and the methodologies employed at Q-Lab, in addition to consultancy and guidance from highly experienced specialists from Q-Lab.

According to MSTB President Mastura Abu Samah, Malaysia has the potential to become the regional hub for software testing within the next five years. "The software testing industry in Malaysia is developing robustly – and it has critical value because it can provide beneficial returns to the country." Mastura adds that the net value of the global software testing market, as verified by TechNavio, a report published by Infiniti Research Limited, is projected to be worth US\$18.3 billion by 2013.

Q-Tap is also aimed at helping participating companies and organisations generate highly skilled and certified professionals in the software testing and software quality assurance (SQA).

"Specialisation in this field will contribute towards fulfilling out national aspirations in attaining the status of a high-income and high-productivity economy," believes Mastura. "This is aligned to the approach adopted for the Economic Transformation Plan (ETP) based on 10 Primary Premises as outlined in the 10th Malaysia Plan. It is also identified as a new source of economic growth."

In addition, says Mastura, the software testing industry has a strategic value to Malaysia in terms of direct monetary returns, and the growth of other industries through the improvement in product quality, services, and work culture.

"Growth demand for software testing services is expected to increase with the deployment of software across all sectors," says Mastura.

Fathil Sulaiman Ismail, Managing Director, Mesiniaga Berhad who was present summarized this initiative when he said, "Through its various programs including Q-TAP, MSTB is dedicated to driving improvements in software implementations. Such software is used in technology based products. It is also used by organisations in their internal systems which are at the core of their operational processes. In short, better software translates into better products and better companies, thus greater national competitiveness. Mesiniaga is thus very supportive of the MSTB agenda."

During the event, Mastura also announced that [SOFTEC 2011](#), themed 'Test It Right,' will be held from 6 – 8 July. The event, comprising a series of tutorials and workshops, will feature eight keynote speakers who are leading authorities in the global field of software testing and software quality assurance.

According to Mastura, response to SOFTEC 2011 has been encouraging. "It is a strong indication that the SOFTEC conference has made a positive impact internationally and is recognised by the global software testing and SQA fraternity."

SOFTEC 2011 aims to provide statkeholders in the Malaysian software testing industry with a unique opportunity to interact and get industry updates from some of the world's renowned software testing experts, practitioners, and thought leaders.

MSTB is a voluntary and non-profit organisation representing the national industry interests in promoting the software testing profession. Also as part of the International Software Testing Qualifications Board (ISTQB), MSTB leads the accreditation process and certification regulations for the country's software testing industry.

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