Axe is a test automation platform that greatly increases productivity and drastically reduces maintenance overheads for test automation. It uses simple Microsoft Excel spreadsheets as a means to define test scenarios and code generation techniques to rapidly generate robust, self-documented automation code.

Test automation has picked up a poor reputation in the testing industry. It has been proven that capture/replay is not a good foundation for building robust, maintainable test systems. It has also been found that script-based approaches have their own limitations such as the skills required and the maintenance and overheads involved. Often the best testers on a project do not have the technical background necessary to work with automation. Axe provides a means to rapidly deploy automated testing systems that can be used by non-technical staff with the minimum of training.

THE AXE TESTING PROCESS

**MANAGE**

Full integration with leading test management software lets your team manage their automated testing in a familiar place. Creating test runs and importing results is easy with Axe Manager.

**DESIGN**

Testers design tests in Microsoft Excel, the industry standard spreadsheet application. No code, no scripts, just business logic and data in a simple modular format.

**BUILD**

With one click code and documentation is automatically generated by Axe for your preferred test automation tool and language.

**EXECUTE**

Execute tests in a range of market leading test automation tools without having to enter a line of code. Axe leverages the strengths of the tools without the complexity.

**ANALYSE**

Full execution information is produced for analysis anywhere in a compatible web browser. Drill down through test runs to diagnose errors all the way down to single test step and view screenshots automatically captured by Axe.

**BENEFITS OF AXE**

**Proven return on investment on automated testing**

Leverage investment of automation tools by cutting implementation costs by up to 75% and ongoing maintenance by up to 86% making automation affordable for your projects now.

**Easy to use by all levels of testing staff**

Facilitate automation using your existing non-technical staff so that automation is incorporated easily into your mainstream testing making it easier to manage and improve job satisfaction.

**Quick and easy to implement**

Implement automation with minimal impact on your testing timescale so that you’re building assets for the future at the same time as you undertake your testing.

**Automate testing throughout the lifecycle**

Apply automation to tests for both UI and non-UI application. Components or SOA architectures. Components can be tested early to improve the overall quality of the development deliverables.

**Future proof your automation investment**

Axe tests work with all leading automation tools so you achieve greater flexibility on selection of software suppliers and offshore partners.
MANAGE

Axe Manager integrates with leading test management tools.

Axe provides a joined up testing process for designing and managing test automation assets. Outline test conditions in your test management tool and link to requirements. Design the detailed scenarios in Microsoft® Excel. Use Axe to generate the code and documentation and import. Run the tests and analyse your results.

DESIGN

Tests designed in simple Excel tables

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>id</th>
<th>description</th>
<th>Login</th>
<th>UserID</th>
<th>Password</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>withUser1</td>
<td>Login as user1</td>
<td>set</td>
<td><a href="mailto:j.smith@testing.com">j.smith@testing.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Axe employs the simple yet powerful features of Microsoft® Excel for test design. Re-use is assured by using a logical modular table layout of tests, sub-tests and test steps. Re-use lowers maintenance overheads. Test steps and business processes are designed using basic business terminology and a minimal set of actions that applies to all target objects.

Building tests can be mastered in hours. Axe is comprehensively documented and is supplied with a fully functioning sample test automation system for supported test tools. Odin Technology can also offer a proven training programme for getting a whole team designing tests quickly.

BUILD - AUTOMATION SCRIPTS

The Axe user interface provides a single point of operation for the script and documentation building process.

The Axe user interface provides a simple central location to manage your test automation projects. Decide which tests you want to build or load a list from Axe Manager, hit the build button and watch your scripts being written for you in your execution tool’s native scripting language.

A summary and full diagnostic information is created along with test coverage statistics about your tests. All available through the menu options allowing you to quickly identify any issues with your test tables.

After building your scripts, hitting the play button will invoke the test execution tool and run them automatically.

BUILD - DOCUMENTATION

Axe will generate comprehensive English documentation for your tests in a standardised format. The documentation can be audited or submitted for sign-off before any automation code has been created. It is also straightforward for the test designers to see their intended test process and refine it.

EXECUTE & ANALYSE

XML is the industry standard for data portability. Axe is based on an XML architecture with all results being stored as such. Using the presentation capabilities and flexibility of HTML, Axe results are presented in an intuitive and easily navigated format viewable in all leading Browsers including Microsoft® Internet Explorer.

All information on your test runs is presented including an at-a-glance summary of test execution results. By drilling down through the results you can quickly diagnose the source of test failure and even view a jpeg screenshot of the failure as it happened, automatically captured by Axe.

View results in all leading Browsers.