# Table of contents

HP Application Lifecycle Management overview ............ 3
  Key benefits of HP ALM ........................................ 3
New features in HP ALM .......................................... 3
  Increased functionality ........................................... 4
  Standardization of platform ................................... 5
  Consolidation of tool sets ...................................... 5
HP Software Professional Services for HP ALM
  migration .................................................................. 6
  HP ALM upgrade options ....................................... 6
  Upgrade considerations ......................................... 7
Summary ................................................................... 8
Meet the expert ........................................................ 8
Why HP Software Professional Services? ................. 8
HP Application Lifecycle Management overview

HP Application Lifecycle Management 11 (ALM) software presents users with a unique set of challenges around deciding when to move data from older HP Quality Center software systems, and the benefits of making that move. HP ALM is both a new product set with its own features and functionality that make it a market leader in application lifecycle management, and the logical next step for the HP Quality Center tool set. HP Software Professional Services has experience and training in how to most effectively handle this migration and help you get the greatest value from your software purchase.

Key benefits of HP ALM

HP ALM software provides a centralized platform for managing and automating activities required for the core application lifecycle, and helps drive complete lifecycle management of applications from inception to retirement. To increase your company’s adoption to this process, there are many new and key features that make this upgrade the right choice. From project timeline planning, to requirements and scope definition, to test tracking, to detailed defect remediation process, HP ALM covers the application lifecycle with a single interface that gives IT teams a common workspace in which to train, implement, and track their project activities.

New features in HP ALM

HP ALM contains a number of new features that bring testing and full application lifecycle management together. Key features include:

- **HP Sprinter**
  HP Sprinter is a new client interface that streamlines manual testing. It provides a dynamic way for Agile shops to perform exploratory testing, and enables test mirroring (execution of a single test against multiple platforms for broad validation) and automatic data population for supported forms. This gives the manual testing done within HP ALM a much more efficient interface and process to follow, streamlining interactions and time frames for functional testing efforts.

- **HP Business Process Modeling**
  HP Business Process Modeling allows the creation of user stories and use cases to be visually created and tracked for various paths and flows within the application. This allows the linking of flows and modules to test cases and requirements, to provide the tracking and coverage analysis that was previously not graphically represented.

- **HP Performance Center Integration**
  While HP has been a leader in both functional and performance testing, a single integrated solution for these areas had not been possible before HP ALM. There is now a single source of record for all requirements and defects for all phases of testing, from functional to security and now performance testing under the HP ALM platform.
• **HP Project Planning and Tracking**
The introduction of HP Project Planning and Tracking within HP ALM gives test managers the ability to view projects from a particular release and cycle to manage execution and coverage rates, as well as provide KPI (key performance indicator) metrics to define criteria for milestones associated with those efforts. The increased coverage metrics and model assist in gap analysis for each phase of a project quality lifecycle, and assists in forecasting.

**Increased functionality**
While there are new features that have been added to HP ALM, changes have also been made to existing functionality that increase overall utilization of the tool and augment an already strong solution.

• **Requirements management**
Requirements management is key to any project implementation’s success or failure. HP ALM provides functionality that addresses the problems of managing those requirements in the most efficient and effective manner. Requirement workflow customization ability, version and baseline functionality, cross-project asset sharing, and increased traceability support all allow requirement managers to give the business a complete picture of application status, and leverage reusability to keep costs lower and streamline project activities.

• **Dashboard and reporting**
A consolidated dashboard and augmented reporting features with HP ALM provide a much more detailed view into the overall project performance than did previous versions of HP Quality Center software. Prior to HP Quality Center 10, there was no integrated dashboard and no version of HP Quality Center had the customized reporting ability that HP ALM now contains. As HP ALM becomes a single source of ALM data, a single dashboard internal to the tool provides the simplest and most streamlined way to access and present that data.

• **Test resource management**
Test resource management gives the testing engineers within your company the same level of asset traceability and versioning for their test resources as exists in requirements and test cases. Sharing repository libraries and performance monitors across projects simplifies test case creation and provides proper testing configurations. Test data configuration now gives testers the ability to have multiple “flavors” of a single test to address different environments and outcomes specific to data. Increasing the efficiency of testing and giving the results more granularity on different efforts lead to more precise requirement coverage with increased reusability.
HP Software Professional Services consultants have experience in a wide number of industries and environments, as well as application lifecycle management tool set experience that is unparalleled in the industry.

**Standardization of platform**
As the HP ALM platform now supports both legacy HP Quality Center and HP Performance Center functionality, now is the time to consolidate these platforms. This will increase functionality by leveraging the improvements made in each area, and will also provide a streamlined support process for a single application set. HP ALM provides a simplified reporting structure for license management as well as resource management across these areas that aids in application maintenance and future-state forecasting so that administrators can be more proactive in their purchasing decisions.

This is also a good time to look at bringing multiple HP Quality Center instances under a single instance. The use of a number of smaller HP Quality Center instances by different segments or organizations within a company can lead to inefficient resource usage and license modeling. When a migration effort is taking place, it is more efficient to size a single instance appropriately and consolidate licenses to reduce overall infrastructure and support costs, while still providing the same level of service to all consumers of the HP ALM tool set.

**Consolidation of tool sets**
The new and increased functionality of HP ALM makes the third-party tools that once augmented HP Quality Center functionality now unnecessary. When performing your migration and upgrade from an older HP Quality Center instance, you can consolidate these third-party tools as well. The offset of services compared to the license and maintenance reclamation from those tools yields immediate ROI. It decreases long-term support cost for multiple products and platforms, and provides a simplified license and chargeback model on usage as well as training and support. This is true for many requirement management and reporting products on the market to cover the gaps of legacy HP Quality Center functionality.
HP Software Professional Services for HP ALM migration

HP Software Professional Services provides the services and expert consultants to help you with a successful migration effort. There are a variety of factors to consider when determining how to approach a migration and which methodology to employ. HP Software Professional Services consultants have experience in a wide number of industries and environments, as well as application lifecycle management tool set experience that is unparalleled in the industry.

HP ALM upgrade options

There are multiple ways to upgrade to HP ALM from an existing HP Quality Center instance. Each option has pros and cons associated with it and should be reviewed and understood to provide the most efficient manner for your HP Quality Center to HP ALM migration effort.

• In-place upgrade
An in-place upgrade is the most straightforward option, but also results in the longest downtime. When performing an in-place upgrade, the data (DB and project repository) are left on the existing system, the HP Quality Center instance is uninstalled, and HP ALM is installed on the same hardware. As there is no migration of data—HP Quality Center and HP ALM are using the same data resources—there is no need to move or reconfigure any data sets. However, the instance will be down for as long as it takes to uninstall, reinstall, migrate, and validate the new HP ALM environment, which can lead to a lengthy outage in quality management activities.

• New infrastructure upgrade
A new infrastructure upgrade gives your company the opportunity to update the current hardware and OS on your HP ALM instance to address server refresh and sun-setting of older OS versions, as well as resize to consolidate possible multiple instances of HP Quality Center or HP Performance Center. This effort allows a more structured project-by-project approach to decrease the downtime on projects, or limit the downtime to a smaller set of projects over the course of the migration effort. Knowing which projects are active and when can give a set plan of action regarding when to move each project to minimize conflicts. This is a lengthier process overall, and may cause some confusion as different projects will need to support different tool sets during the migration effort. There is also the cost of supporting multiple hardware environments over the term of the migration.

• Hybrid/gradual upgrade
A hybrid/gradual upgrade gives you the ability to share some of the resources if there is no need to replace database or file repository hardware for the purpose of the migration. This way, you can replace the server and application-side hardware, or gradually move existing servers from HP Quality Center to HP ALM as the migration effort moves demand from one to the other. This does not entail the risk associated with the data move from a new infrastructure migration, but adds complexity in the approach and stability of each platform during the effort. This approach reduces the hardware footprint and allows for the repurposing of existing environments from a cost-saving perspective.

With any approach, there are definite advantages and disadvantages that need to be addressed and weighed to mitigate risk. HP Software Professional Services can help your organization understand these issues to help you make the correct decision.
Upgrade considerations
When making any determinations regarding migration, there are a number of factors that will influence the decision regarding which approach to take. For each of the above options, there are a number of factors that will influence one choice over another:

From which version of HP Quality Center are you migrating? What outstanding tickets or issues do you currently have open in HP Quality Center? What projects are to be moved and when are they available for a move? As environments become older and larger, the complexity and need for investigation increases.

The steps needed to perform any migrations are broken down below.

Plan
Before any activity, plan your work and work your plan. Decide which of the previously mentioned approaches is right for your efforts and ensure that you have all of the steps mapped out and understand the activities for each. This is instrumental to understanding time frames of the work efforts, planning resources for each activity, and limiting downtime on projects to a minimum.

It is also important to remember to back up all of the original system (database and repository) first to allow a recovery of the environment if issues arise. In some plans, these backups are used in the restoration and migration plans, but always maintain a copy of the current system regardless of your effort.

Build
Ensure that you have the HP ALM 11 hardware in place and installed. Patch to the appropriate level for your hardware and operating system as recommended by HP. Many times migrations will fail because the latest patches are not applied to the core system before attempting the process. Make sure the sizing of your disk space, memory, database, and file repository is appropriate for your company’s standards of hardware refresh as well as the expected growth rate of your system. If the plan is for this hardware to be refreshed in the next three years, then don’t plan on sizing past three years as you will just spend more time than necessary.

Validate core install
Once HP ALM is up, you need to validate the build and patch before the migration attempt. This eliminates issues with stability of core application and allows the team to concentrate on migration issues only. Make sure that all the functionality of HP ALM is in place and working before you attempt an install.

Migrate/upgrade
Take time to move the data correctly, ensure the permissions are valid from one environment to the next if needed, and resolve any issues that are documented in the upgrade utility within HP ALM. Document the project size and time duration of the tasks for future state as well as logging for support activities should the migration fail and you need to roll back or contact HP support.

Validate migrated project
Have the subject matter experts validate the projects after you have migrated. The migration tool will document success or failure based off criteria that are different from an end user. Check project access, user account lists, spot check workflows and any project customization. Differences in the versions of HP Quality Center will show up in these areas.

Document lessons learned/differences in plan
Update your plan with any lessons learned from this attempt. Just because it is over does not mean you are not going to have to do this again. Any disaster recovery situation that forces you to refresh from out-of-version data will have to have these steps performed again. A core plan that is updated with correct and validated steps will streamline the process next time.

Repeat as needed
Depending on your approach, this migration may not have been for a single instance of HP Quality Center or for a project or domain. You will need to repeat the migration for other instances until all data has been moved. Based off your findings from the lessons learned, each instance should be smoother than the one before and time frames will become more exact.

HP Software Professional Services brings a broad base of expertise in the HP ALM solution to your organization to not only aid in migration, but to provide skill-set mentoring and knowledge transfer to make your organization more efficient going forward.
Summary

The benefits of moving from legacy HP Quality Center to HP ALM are great and outweigh the costs and risks of staying with older platforms. HP Software Professional Services has the training and skills to streamline these migration and upgrade efforts to mitigate risk and provide the highest value in the shortest time frame. From a single plan of effort to effective end-user mentoring, HP Software Professional Services can help make your migration effort successful and allow you to more quickly unlock the value of HP ALM.

Meet the expert

Brian Palagyi is a principle consultant within HP Software Professional Services, focusing on application lifecycle management. Over the course of his career, he has worked with a number of organizations to increase their overall quality methodology maturity and help those organizations bring about a successful testing center of excellence. His industry sector experience ranges from financial and manufacturing to federal and energy.

Why HP Software Professional Services?

HP Software Professional Services brings together ALM consulting expertise with industry-leading HP ALM software to help modernization initiatives deliver their desired business outcomes instead of failing under the burden of outdated, legacy delivery mechanisms. HP Software Professional Services delivers innovative testing solutions and delivery models in the context of the complete application lifecycle—from business idea through retirement. We provide advisory services, solution consulting, HP Software implementation, education, and support services for a comprehensive portfolio from strategy through management. The result for enterprise application teams is improved predictability, repeatability, quality, and change readiness in both the core and complete application lifecycle.

To download the trial version of HP ALM 11, visit our Download Center.