



How to Painlessly Ditch HP ALM and Go Agile

White Paper

GetZephyr.com



DR. MILAN VERMA
Lead Client Services

Dr. Milan Verma, Zephyr's Lead Client Services Engineer, recently gave a presentation and answered critical questions on why and how companies can migrate from HP's ALM (Application Lifecycle Management) product. A PhD in Artificial Intelligence and Automation, Milan is a test management and automation expert with 15 years experience consulting for hundreds of corporations.

"Zephyr's purpose and daily focus is to help organizations save time," Milan said by way of introduction.

"My talk will show how test management can be used as a way of saving time that you can use to focus on other elements of your software

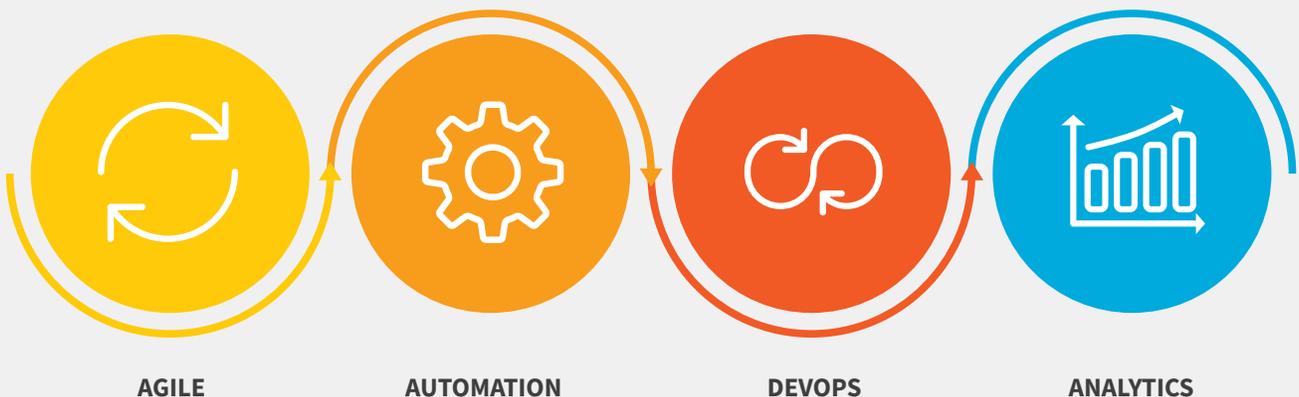
development life cycle, like building more products, capabilities. and services-- and then getting them out the door and into the market as quickly as possible."

Milan outlined a four-step process called Continuous Testing Agility for speeding up how software is built, released, deployed and maintained.

"First, we help your organization change your testing processes to make them more agile and collaborative." Zephyr is able to do this, Milan said, because it works with tools that facilitate the agile way of working, such as JIRA "or any other agile oriented framework that helps you get through your software development process quicker."

"Second, we show you how to gain efficiencies in your process through automation... Once you've got your automation in place, we're able to show you how to fuse together collaboration among your DevOps (development/operations) and testing teams." Zephyr also provides facilities for analyzing the respective data, Milan said, "whether it's analysis for decision support using our predictive analytics capability--or just graphing and reporting for executives or others involved in the testing process."

Continuous Testing Agility



Why Migrate from HP ALM

According to Milan, HP's ALM product offers many test management features and capabilities sought by large enterprises, such as support for large deployments with flexible deployment options. It's ease of configuration, authentication, and security features are also valuable, Milan said, "especially now with the need for General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) compliance." However, ALM's product integrations are pretty much restricted to HP's software suite (asset, time and project management) and a few third-party bridging tools. "A lot of the projects we see in HP ALM or HP QC are traditionally waterfall-based projects," Milan said, which have a hard time supporting integrations with JIRA, with Confluence, with the Atlassian tool set in general. "In some cases, we've seen individuals

whose full-time responsibility is to take data from one source and push it to another source. They literally come in and spend their working day passing data from JIRA to HP ALM and vice versa."

Among HP ALM limitations are its lack of support for more modern agile test methodologies, which isn't helped by the product's slow evolution. "It's difficult to see changes in the product via feature or change requests. (In many ways), HP ALM is like a huge tanker ship. Making a change to the product isn't easy because it has ramifications to a large client set. Actually, taking a feature request from a client and feeding that all the way back to product management and getting the developers to hear about it is a very difficult task."



LIMITATIONS

- Support for more modern test methodologies
- Product integrations are restricted to HP software suite, and a few third-party tools, through add-ons (e.g. Jira)
- Product evolution
- Native support for modern organization tools, security, and authentication needs
- Professional service customization

How to Migrate from HP ALM

A full list of the capabilities of Zephyr (Standalone Edition) is available on the getzephyr.com website, Milan said, as well as demos and [how-to videos](#) on YouTube. He said he wanted to focus on a specific HP migration project in the next part of his presentation--to highlight different steps in the process and to give audience members confidence about how easy it is to migrate from HP ALM.

Milan said Zephyr’s development and support team members have been extremely diligent aligning every single field in ALM with Zephyr. “This includes checking data types, fields lengths and the presence or absence of particular fields ...to make sure that users, releases, cycles and test sets from ALM are migrated over to cycles and phases in Zephyr.”

“The project entities, as they’re referred to in ALM, are migrated over to custom fields,” Milan said.



“Attachments at the step level, test case level or requirement level as well as tests, sub-referenced test cases or steps are brought over, along with any connected requirements.” Milan further explained that you have the option of taking requirements from HP ALM and putting them into either JIRA or Zephyr. “Next, we hit the ‘Start Importing’ button and it (the Zephyr-HP ALM/QC Adapter) starts the process of taking your data from the HP ALM database and pushing it over to Zephyr (Standalone Edition)”



ZEPHYR - HP ALM/QC ADAPTER

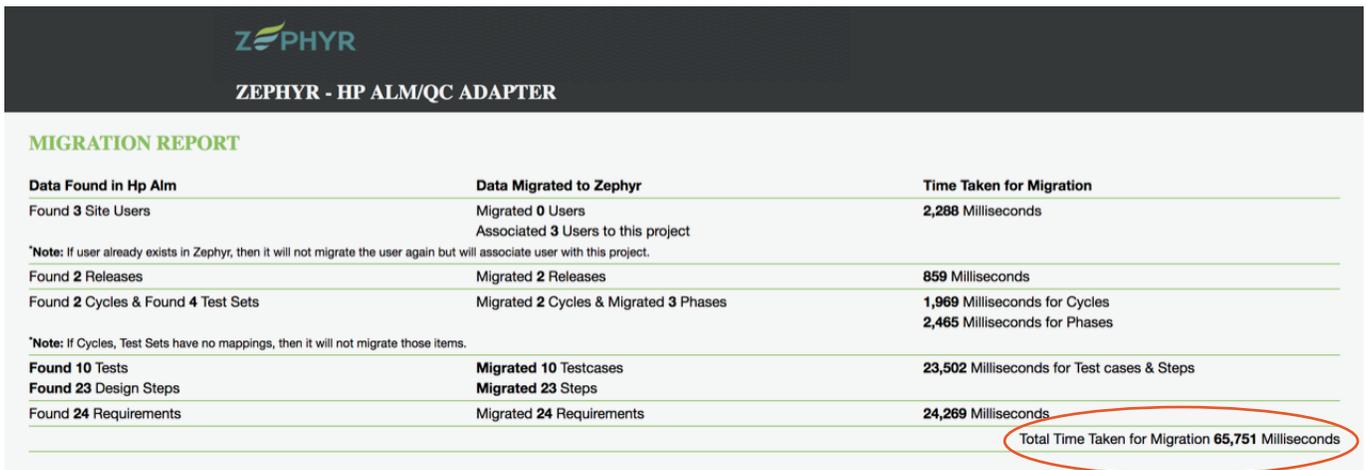
ARE YOU READY TO IMPORT 'IMOS' PROJECT FROM 'DEFAULT' DOMAIN ?
SET IMPORT PREFERENCES

Hp Alm Import	to	Zephyr	Data Found in Hp Alm
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site Users (associated to this project)	→	Users (and associate to this project)	3 Users
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Releases	→	Releases	2 Releases
<small>*Note: If Releases is unchecked below will not be migrated.</small>			
<small>• Cycles and Test Sets</small>			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cycles & Test Sets	→	Cycles & Phases	2 Cycles & 4 Test Sets
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project Entities	→	Custom Fields	
		<small>• Requirement (Fields)</small>	
		<small>• Test Cases (Fields)</small>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attachments	→	Attachments	3 Attachments
		<small>• Requirement</small>	
		<small>• Test Cases</small>	
		<small>• Step attachments will be added to Test Case</small>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tests	→	Test Cases	10 Tests
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Referenced Design Steps	→	Steps	23 Design Steps
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Requirements	→	Requirements	24 Requirements

Start Importing

The total time taken for the migration of the user, releases, cycles, phases, test cases, test steps and requirements data in the sample dataset was 49 seconds. “I respect that it’s a small dataset,” Milan said, “ but you can see the process is quite quick and will give you a rough idea of the migration time for projects ten times the size of this one.”

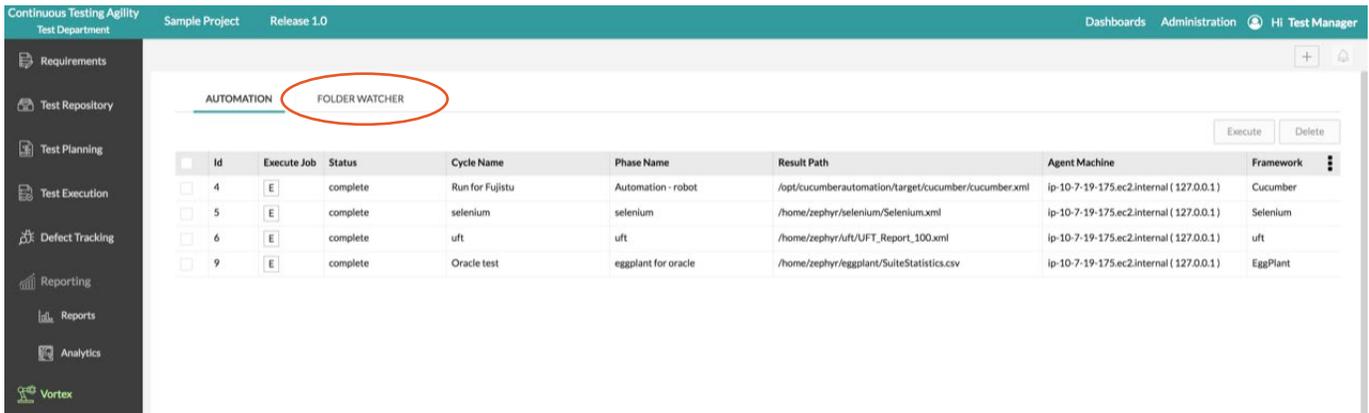
Asked by an audience member if he had seen any timeouts when transferring large amounts of data from HP ALM 12 to Zephyr, Milan replied that he hadn’t seen any time outs. “ We’ve done some extremely large migrations, but we haven’t seen any time outs at all.”



Data Found in Hp Alm	Data Migrated to Zephyr	Time Taken for Migration
Found 3 Site Users	Migrated 0 Users Associated 3 Users to this project	2,288 Milliseconds
<i>*Note: If user already exists in Zephyr, then it will not migrate the user again but will associate user with this project.</i>		
Found 2 Releases	Migrated 2 Releases	859 Milliseconds
Found 2 Cycles & Found 4 Test Sets	Migrated 2 Cycles & Migrated 3 Phases	1,969 Milliseconds for Cycles 2,465 Milliseconds for Phases
<i>*Note: If Cycles, Test Sets have no mappings, then it will not migrate those items.</i>		
Found 10 Tests	Migrated 10 Testcases	23,502 Milliseconds for Test cases & Steps
Found 23 Design Steps	Migrated 23 Steps	
Found 24 Requirements	Migrated 24 Requirements	24,269 Milliseconds
		Total Time Taken for Migration 65,751 Milliseconds

From an automation perspective, you have the option of using Zephyr’s Vortex tool to work with Cucumber, Selenium, UFT runs or eggPlant runs. “You can run these jobs either individually or select multiple jobs and run them in bulk,” Milan said. “There’s even the option of working with a folder watcher so it listens in on the results location and automatically brings the results over. My tip here is

to use UFT or any automation framework triggered via a CI (continuous integration) engine like Jenkins. Taking the workspace location where the results have been published, you can create a folder watcher to track and manage all your automation jobs, which will then get auto imported into Zephyr.”

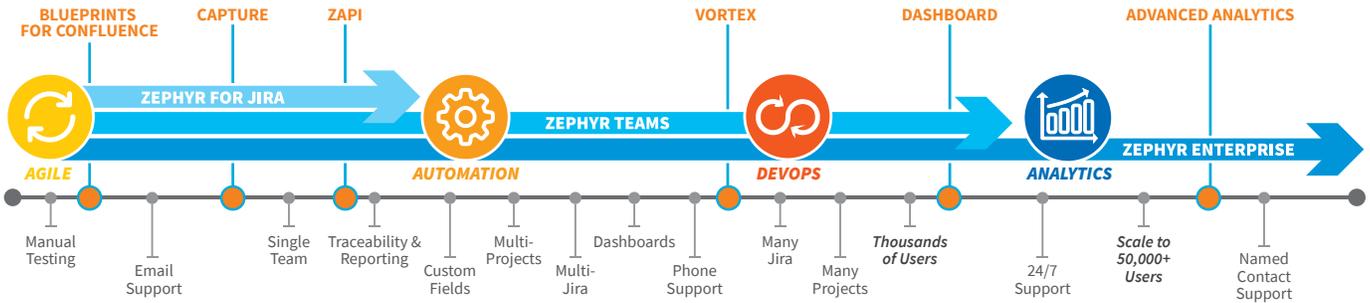


Continuous Testing Agility | Sample Project | Release 1.0 | Dashboards | Administration | Hi Test Manager

AUTOMATION | **FOLDER WATCHER**

Id	Execute Job	Status	Cycle Name	Phase Name	Result Path	Agent Machine	Framework
4	E	complete	Run for Fujitsu	Automation - robot	/opt/cucumberautomation/target/cucumber/cucumber.xml	ip-10-7-19-175.ec2.internal (127.0.0.1)	Cucumber
5	E	complete	selenium	selenium	/home/zephyr/selenium/Selenium.xml	ip-10-7-19-175.ec2.internal (127.0.0.1)	Selenium
6	E	complete	uft	uft	/home/zephyr/uft/UFT_Report_100.xml	ip-10-7-19-175.ec2.internal (127.0.0.1)	uft
9	E	complete	Oracle test	eggplant for oracle	/home/zephyr/eggplant/SuiteStatistics.csv	ip-10-7-19-175.ec2.internal (127.0.0.1)	EggPlant

Continuous Testing Agility 2020



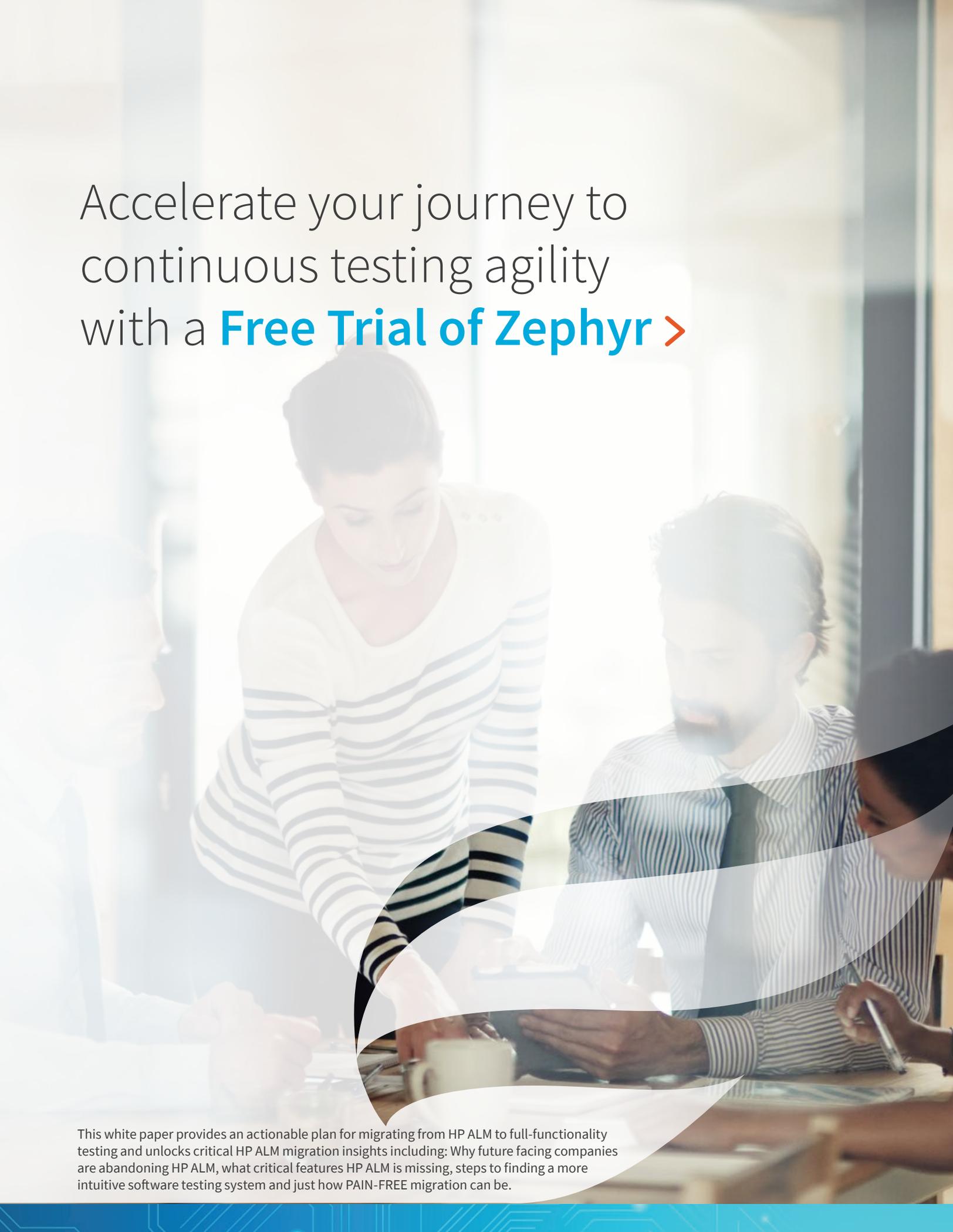
Tom Alexander, Zephyr’s Global Vice President of Marketing, moderated the Q & A section of Milan’s presentation. Tom reiterated that Zephyr has set a company goal to lead all of its enterprise level clients to achieve full continuous testing agility by the year 2020, which means helping them become more agile and expert in the use of automation frameworks, Zephyr’s DevOps dashboards and analytics tools that clients can use to automate much of their manual testing.

Asked which version of HP QC and ALM the Zephyr-HP ALM/QC Adapter was compatible with, Milan said there is a compatibility matrix that lists specific HP versions, but that the Adapter is compatible with a great many HP ALM or QC environments, “particularly some very old QC environments.” He also said the migration is done via RESTful APIs where possible but “if a database connection is required, we can leverage that as well.”

Another questioner said his company was using Zephyr for JIRA and needed data in it to be migrated over to Zephyr Enterprise. Milan said Zephyr has a library of different migration utilities, one of which is a Zephyr for JIRA to Zephyr Enterprise migration utility that can be downloaded.

Another attendee said his company had 16,000 lines of HP ALM and QC workflow and business logic code that they want to migrate. Milan said that the workflow and business logic code should be migrated to a source code repository system rather than into Zephyr Enterprise. He said this particular migration utility won’t bring over workflow information, but he and his team did have some ways of porting data and code that he would be happy to share with him.

Tom concluded the presentation by echoing a comment that Milan had made earlier, namely that the easiest way to learn about Zephyr is to test drive it. And, if you go to getzephyr.com, it’s easy to sign up for a free trial of the Zephyr product.

A group of four business professionals (three men and one woman) are gathered around a table in a meeting. They are looking at a tablet held by one of the men. The woman is leaning over the table, pointing at the tablet. The background is a bright, modern office with large windows. The overall tone is professional and collaborative.

Accelerate your journey to
continuous testing agility
with a **Free Trial of Zephyr** >

This white paper provides an actionable plan for migrating from HP ALM to full-functionality testing and unlocks critical HP ALM migration insights including: Why future facing companies are abandoning HP ALM, what critical features HP ALM is missing, steps to finding a more intuitive software testing system and just how PAIN-FREE migration can be.



About Zephyr

Zephyr provides the world's most widely used software test management solution, powering more than 18,000 customers and 5 million users across 100 countries.

Zephyr is leading a global transformation to DevOps and Continuous Testing Agility through widespread adoption of its advanced quality management, automation and analytics tools. Leading Product and IT teams in Finance, Healthcare, Media, Mobile, IT Services and Enterprise leverage the Zephyr family of products to keep pace with accelerating software delivery lifecycles. Driven by an agile company credo – to help organizations spend less time testing and more time building – Zephyr launched the first testing solution natively inside Jira nearly a decade ago. Today, companies and teams of all sizes rely on Zephyr and its end-to-end solutions, unmatched scalability and support to move from ideas to impact with increasingly greater velocity and quality of collaboration.

[GetZephyr.com](https://www.getzephyr.com)