Leading Testing Activities

[A Guidebook for New Leaders of Testing]

by Jesper Ottosen

Published on LeanPub 2024

Leading Testing Activities
[A Guidebook for New Leaders of Testing]

By Jesper Ottosen
Copyright 2024
#LtaBook

Version: 2024.06.02
For sale at https://leanpub.com/ltabook.
The links[1] in the footnotes are valid as of the above date.

This book is a Leanpub book. Leanpub combines a powerful ebook and course writing platform and an online storefront where you can buy our authors' ebooks and courses.

The front page picture is by Andrew Neel[2].

To Lonnie, but with no goats this time.

[1] All references are located here:
https://github.com/jesperottosen/jesperottosen/blob/main/LeadingTestingActivities.md
[2] Andrew Neel, 2016, https://unsplash.com/photos/1-29wyvvLJA

From The Reviewers

This book is a goldmine of insights on elevating your test leadership. Jesper offers his inspiring lessons through many flavors in the buffet of testing. Read it once, practice, and continuously iterate the way you lead your testing activities.

Emna Ayadi,
Quality Coach.

I wish I'd had this book earlier in my career. A treasure trove of useful ideas to help you write your own test leadership story.

Meg MacKay,
Principal QA Engineer.

Jesper shares lessons from his decades in the field and synthesizes research from industry leaders and top scholars for a read you won't want to miss.

Tristan Lombard,
Dev & Engineering Community Builder

About the Author.

Jesper primarily leads testing activities in programs and projects that change the organization's IT landscape. His first book[3], introduced Wardley Mapping to improve and visualize test strategies. He has authored multiple resources to help professionals learn how to lead testing activities.

LinkedIn:	https://www.LinkedIn.com/in/jespero2/
Newsletter:	https://leading-testing-activities.ghost.io/
Leadership blog:	https://jlottosen.wordpress.com/tag/leadership/

[3] "Goal-Aligned Test Strategies", 2022, https://leanpub.com/goatsbook/

Once Upon A Time..... 5
Leading..... 6
The Test Manager..... 9
Projects are About People..... 11
How to Get Started Then..... 15
Guidance on Testing Training..... 18
Where Does Test Leadership Fit In?..... 20
Testing..... 22
The Purpose of Testing..... 23
What Kind of System?..... 25
Examples of IT Projects..... 27
A Catalog of Testing Themes..... 31
Tools for Leading Testing..... 33
Activities..... 36
Alignment and Strategy..... 36
Planning and Preparing..... 39
Tracking the Test Progress..... 40
Deliverables..... 43
Leading + Testing + Activities..... 45
Map your Test Leadership Quest..... 46

Once Upon A Time

Our main character set out on a quest to lead a testing activity.
While they searched and searched worldwide,
they needed a clear map to guide their quest.
And there, my friend, is where this story begins.

This book is your guide to leading testing activities, especially for those without experience in the testing world. It's also an up-to-date guide for testing professionals moving into leading testing activities. It's here to answer the question: *If you moved into test leadership roles, what do you wish you could go back and tell yourself before you started*[4]*?*

In large organizations, leadership roles often involve the line management responsibilities of hiring, firing, and running a team. Yet another leadership form exists, where a person leads an activity without hierarchical obligations. The leader of a testing activity can be an individual contributor—a team member who focuses on leading the testing activities.

After reading this book, you will:

- **Be able to take the first steps to lead testing**
- **Know about when testing happens**
- **Know about what kind of testing could happen**
- **Understand the deliverables in test leadership roles**

The content book's content is structured based on the title. I write about Leading, then Testing, and lastly, the Activities. I hope that this book will guide you, the main character, in *your* quest to lead testing activities.

[4] Thank you for the inspiration Meg, sorry it took a while. Teaser – A Guidebook to Leading Testing, 2023, https://jlottosen.wordpress.com/2023/05/10/teaser-a-guidebook-to-leading-testing/