



20 OCTOBER 2009

Sogeti News – October 2009

Welcome to our quarterly IT eZine. I hope you find the content useful and informative. In this issue we build on our theme for 2009 'Extracting value from investment in IT' where we look at the potential role of IT in our economic recovery.

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The Role of IT in the Recovery

Welcome to our Autumn newsletter. Following excellent feedback on our previous newsletters, we continue to maintain the format and hope to provide useful information to our readers on our theme of leveraging investments in IT, which is so important during these challenging times and its contribution to our recovery.

Following a year of what seems like an endless stream of dire economic news, we are now all well aware of the

depth and consequences of the recession. While we need to face the realities of where Ireland Inc. currently is, we also need to focus on what we can do to begin the long road to recovery. Ireland's recovery will be built on exporting goods and services, underpinned by increasing our international competitiveness through significant reductions in our cost base (particularly the cost of our public services), productivity and innovation.

Focus on Recovery

So how have we coped so far? To date, the emphasis has been on cost containment/reduction and damage limitation, where all costs have come under scrutiny. However, the global environment is changing. The USA Federal Reserve statement of September 23rd notes that 'economic activity has picked up' and 'market forces will support a strengthening of economic growth'. Closer to home, the German and French economies are officially out of recession. Despite these positive global changes, it appears Ireland's economy may be slower to return to growth. Indeed, in its Quarterly Review on 13 October, the ESRI reiterated its forecast that the economy, measured by GDP, will shrink by 7.2% this year and 1.1% next year, with the possibility of a return to only a modest level of growth towards the end of 2010.

How can IT contribute?

In understanding how IT can contribute to the recovery, it is useful to look at the two main planks on which our recovery will be based. These are:

- International competitiveness of the trading (goods and services) sector
- Reduced costs and improved services from our public sector

So how can IT assist the recovery? To make sense of the strategies and tactics necessary for leveraging IT we must understand the public and private sector drivers and what government and businesses need to achieve. We must also acknowledge the current position of financial markets. Freeing up cash and stimulating capital flow will be a slow process. In the short term at least the priority for organisations must be to get more value from current investments and assets and strategically select only those investments that will have maximum impact and demonstrate a clear economic business case.

Our [latest white paper](#) looks at how in the public and private sectors we can get significantly better value for current expenditure and future investments in IT and how we might leverage our IT assets and skills to regain our international competitiveness, on which as a small open trading economy, our future is so critically dependent.

[Read the full white paper here.](#)

Please contact me if you would like to discuss any of the items featured in this ezine or indeed any other IT challenge you face.

Kind Regards,

Declan Kavanagh, CEO, Sogeti Ireland
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New Software Testing and QA Blog

We recently launched a new Software Testing and QA Blog. The blog, which is edited by our consultants and practitioners, discusses topical issues, news, events, training and methodologies. [View the blog](#)

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Webinars & Podcasts – Leadership in Test series

Our Test Leadership webinar series has been particularly well received and we are pleased to announce the addition of two further webinars, '[End-to-End Testing](#)' and '[Test Organisation Structures: To centralise or decentralise](#)'. If you didn't get a chance to view our previous webinars, recordings are available on our [website](#) or as a [podcast](#) for

iTunes.

Upcoming webinars

- [SAP Testing and Solution Manager - 21 October 2009](#)
An increasing number of companies that use SAP solutions understand the importance of a professional approach to testing their systems. This webinar will discuss SAP Testing and Solution Manager [Learn more/Register](#)
- [End to End \(E2E\) testing with TMap Next – 18 November 2009](#)
End-to-End testing, also known as 'chain' testing, is becoming an absolute necessity due to the increasing interconnectedness of many of the systems that provide the essential infrastructure of our daily lives. E2E testing plays an important role in the quality management of complex chains systems. [Learn more/Register](#)
- [Test Organisation Structures: To Centralise or Decentralise? - 9 December 2009](#)
This webinar looks at test organisation design and change. The aim is to assist attendees identify the optimum test structure for their business. It will consider the options of a decentralized structure. [Learn more/Register](#)

Previous webinar topics

The earlier webinars in the series are available to download and as a podcast. Questions asked by attendees and the corresponding answers are available on [our blog](#).

- [Effective Test Process Improvement – July 22nd 2009](#) – Download slides
- [Quality with Agile – August 19th 2009](#) – Download slides
- [Effective use of tools in Agile – October 7th 2009](#) – Download slides
- [TMap Next, the test standard – September 16th 2009](#) – Download slides

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Sogeti provide keynote for Northern Ireland Civil Service ICT conference

Menno Van Doorn, a Director of at VINT (Vision Inspiration Navigation Trends), Sogeti, will be a keynote speaker at of the annual Northern Ireland Civil Service ICT Conference. The conference, organised by IT Assist, Delivery and Innovation Division, & Department of Finance and Personnel, will take place on Tuesday 20th October and Wednesday 21st October 2009 at the Radisson SAS Roe Park Resort Hotel, Limavady. [Learn more](#)

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Dates for your diary

Sogeti participates in a large number of events each year, below is a list of upcoming events and dates for your diary:

- 20 – 21 Oct2009 – [Northern Ireland Civil Service ICT Conference](#)
- 18 Nov 2009 - [End to End \(E2E\) testing with TMap Next](#)
- 27 Nov 2009 – [Sogeti Collaboration and UCC expert Erik van Ommeren to speak at NI SOCITM Conference](#)
- 30 Nov – 3 Dec 2009 – [Eurostar Conference](#)
- 9 Dec 2009 - [Test Organisation Structures: To Centralise or Decentralise?](#)

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Can business management learn from Agile development?

Declan Kavanagh, CEO of Sogeti Ireland, discusses how business management can learn from the techniques used in Agile development. This paper discusses similarities between traditional software development approaches and established management practices. It goes on to outline how Agile software development is being used to address the shortcomings of established development methodologies. [Read more](#)

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How IT can assist in economic recovery

Declan Kavanagh, CEO of Sogeti, discusses how IT can contribute to economic recovery. He contends that we must now focus on how, as a small open economy, we can take advantage of the international recovery which will gather pace in 2010. [Read more](#)

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Maximising the value of good testing practice in an Agile environment

Our new white paper on testing in Agile environments finds that speed of software development and quality still remain a major challenge for businesses. The paper discusses how Agile development and testing approaches can be used to address these challenges: industry analysts have consistently found that 77 percent of users are not happy with the speed of software development and 50 percent are not satisfied with the quality. [Read more](#)

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New Book: End-to-end testing with TMap NEXT – Available now

Sogeti Group has launched the latest in its series of thought leadership books on test topics. This book is the first to describe a complete and methodical approach to one of the most complex test situations facing test professionals today; the testing of a business process from 'end to end'. This topic will also be the subject of our [upcoming webinar](#) on November 18th presented by Rob Smit, one of the authors. [Read more](#)

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Training Special offer – 10% off: Professional Test Management, A TMap Next Course

We are offering a discount on our TMap Next course to be held from 24-26 November. This training provides understanding of both theory and practice of structured testing and test management according to TMap. [Read more](#)

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Enhanced service offering: SAP Managed Services – SAP Run

Sogeti SAP Run™ is a comprehensive SAP application management offering, that provides your business with a framework to reduce the total cost of ownership (TCO) of your SAP footprint while simultaneously realising improved operational efficiency and quality. [Learn more](#)

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Software Testing and QA Groups on LinkedIn

LinkedIn Groups are a great way to network and share ideas as the groups can be created for any subject/topic and by any member of Linked. We have created a list of some of the most popular Software Testing and QA groups.

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Sogeti appoints Business Development Manager

Sogeti Ireland, a member of the Capgemini Group, has appointed Patrick Marren as Business Development Manager.

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Sogeti RSS feeds now available

We have set up an RSS feed and Podcast to syndicate the content of our webinars and events. The themes include

General Software Testing and Quality, Agile, Automation, Test Methodologies, Development and Test Process Improvement. [Read more](#)

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Softtest - 1 Oct: Automated Testing and Development in an Agile Environment

Ken Brennock, Trainer and Principal Consultant at Sogeti, spoke at SoftTest in Dublin on 1 October. Ken discussed the effective use of automation tools in Agile environments. [Download the slides](#)

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