Application Risk Management

The adoption of DevOps and Agile has shortened and simplified the application development lifecycle. But with an increased focus on speed to market comes an even greater risk that the application will fall short against its objectives. This risk is further accentuated when the application relies - as most do these days—on distributed networks.

Networked Applications are at the heart of everything we do. From CRM to Social Networking, ordering a taxi to transferring money, they have transformed our business and Personal lives. The military, healthcare, emergency services rely on apps to save lives. Apps power our personal, work and public lives, so they simply must perform.

Application Risk Management (AppRM) is a new process that helps software architects, developers and testers ensure they have properly assessed and managed risk throughout the application development and deployment lifecycle. It is a process for identifying, qualifying and mitigating the potential failure and performance issues, from development through to deployment - from design though to the launch of the application.

AppRM enables developers and testers to predict and manage all the risks associated with application performance thereby reducing cost and time to market by the early identifying of vulnerabilities and risk, especially when it comes to external factors. For example, no matter how elegantly an application is designed - no matter how well it performs within the safety and comfort of the test lab - it must cope with the issues of operating over real networks which is why systems architects are increasingly adopting a new approach to this particular application risk management. *Network Profiling and Virtual Test Networks* are a powerful new way of testing that provides the smart way to manage the risks of deploying applications into potentially hostile network environments.

Application Risk Management has at its heart a simple idea: To remove the potential risks by understanding how an app performs at every stage of the development process such as understanding how it performs in the real world networked environment - Its practitioners know that they can't improve public networks but they can improve the app's tolerance and resilience. Ultimately, they must first know the point at which the app is likely to fail.

In an environment where the risk of a failed application launch or migration could cost revenue, brand reputation, jobs or even lives, the effective assessment and management of this risk should be an integral part of any development process and as such is being given more focus.