

Valcon G-Cloud Lot 3 Service Definition

Testing QA Service

[Quality Assurance and Performance Testing | Test automation, Performance testing,
Assurance/testing design, Infrastructure performance testing, Operational readiness testing, Other |
Development, Implementation, Load Testing, Stress Testing, Volume Testing, Soak Testing,
Scalability Testing, Capacity Planning, Accessibility testing]

Version 1.0

1. About Us

Valcon is a leading European consultancy specialising in AI and data-driven business transformation, with a growing and established presence in the UK. A trusted partner to major organisations including multiple UK Government departments and public sector agencies. Valcon connects strategy and operations, helping organisations create value in their transformation programmes.

With over 1,750 consultants across Europe, Valcon brings deep expertise across data, AI, technology and consulting. In the UK, Valcon works with clients across financial services, public sector, retail, industrials and infrastructure. Valcon is backed by private equity firm Rivean Capital.

2. Service Description

Quality Assurance (QA) & Testing delivers the fundamentals but emphasises different areas of focus, providing the assurance with consistent, efficient and repeatable delivery and governance. Valcon will design, build and optimise your QA & Testing capability to guide and assure your cloud enabled transformations.

Features

- Assess current practices to tailor client-specific improvements.
- Ownership of risk-based approach, documented and delivered efficiently.
- Plan and track full test lifecycle across all levels.
- Provision of delivery experts on-site, collaborating with key stakeholders.
- Establish Test Centre of Excellence for training and effort reduction.
- Ensure transparency from business cases to tests cases and defects.
- Prevent issues with proactive shift-left testing approach.
- Act as escalation point, removing blockers to delivery.
- Align closely with change management and adoption strategies.
- Deliver automation frameworks and support all testing types.

Benefits

- Reduce defect fix costs through efficient processes.
- Increase coverage and reduce time via test automation frameworks.
- Improve defect identification and issue detection rates.
- Optimise tooling selection and ensure effective usage and maintenance.
- Leverage technology partnerships for licensing benefits and discounts.
- Prevent defects through static analysis testing and early reviews.
- Enhance maturity for better visibility and transparency in testing.
- Reduce duplication and reuse artefacts to lower overall costs.
- Enable faster, accurate project completion and quality improvements.

3. Approach

Quality Assurance and Testing is therefore right at the heart of everything we do at Valcon, it is the protective buffer for our clients, whilst also acting as a conduit that allows us to seamlessly deliver across all of our capabilities. A strong QA & Testing function will improve, control and assure delivery by taking an inclusive and collaborative approach to ensure resilient and fit for purpose end to end solutions.

Our approach to establishing robust Quality Assurance & Testing processes typically begins by understanding the maturity of the client, that allows us to design and build practices that are fit for purpose and can evolve according to the needs of the organisation. Valcon will briefly assess the current situation using a structured, industry recognised Test Maturity Assessment and come up with recommendations and a Test delivery roadmap to implement the Services including quick wins. Valcon will operate the continuous improvement against a prioritised backlog of services, which will implement the desired level of QA & Testing capability that is relevant to the organisation.

Our approach follows the typical structure described below:

Stage 1: Testing Foundations

- **Purpose:** Establish QA as the protective quality gateway and delivery enabler.
- **Key Actions:**
 - Define QA's role in improving, controlling, and delivering E2E quality.
 - Ensure inclusivity across all capabilities for resilient end-to-end solutions.

3.1.1 Stage 2: QA Assessment

- **Purpose:** Understand the client's current QA maturity.
- **Key Actions:**
 - Perform a Test Maturity Assessment using industry-recognized frameworks.
 - Identify gaps and opportunities.
 - Recommend quick wins and long-term improvements.

3.1.2 Stage 3: QA Strategy & Roadmap

- **Purpose:** Design a fit-for-purpose QA approach.
- **Key Actions:**
 - Create a QA roadmap aligned with client needs.
 - Define practices for Agile, Waterfall, or hybrid delivery models.
 - Prioritize backlog for continuous improvement.

3.1.3 Stage 4: QA Service Layers

- **Purpose:** Deliver tailored QA services.
- **Layers:**
 - Resources – Deploy experienced QA professionals.
 - Structured Approach – Implement transparent QA processes.
 - Technology & Tooling – Leverage existing tools or recommend best-fit solutions.
 - Testing Transformation – Enable agility and transformation projects.
 - Managed Services – Provide end-to-end QA ownership.

3.1.4 Stage 5: Test Planning & Execution

- **Purpose:** Execute testing activities effectively.
- **Key Actions:**
 - Plan tests for migrations, redesigns, and UAT.
 - Validate data (migration, enrichment, archiving).
 - Minimize operational disruption.

3.1.5 Stage 6: Continuous Improvement

- **Purpose:** Evolve QA capability.
- **Key Actions:**
 - Operate against a prioritized improvement backlog.
 - Regularly review and enhance QA processes and tooling.

4. Effort and Cost

Effort will be determined collaboratively between the Valcon and the client based on the skills mix and scope required.

Please refer to the Pricing Document for current rates.

- Rate card prices are exclusive of VAT.
- Expenses are recharged at cost and supported by receipts.
- Expenses may include reasonable travel, accommodation, and subsistence costs.
- The payment schedule will follow milestone completions as agreed in the Statement of Work.

5. Assumptions

The successful delivery of the engagement depends on assumptions and dependencies jointly agreed between the Valcon and the client.

- These may include (but are not limited to):
- Access to required stakeholders, systems, or information
- Access to all assumed data
- Availability of test environments
- Any training required to perform testing activities on agreed test systems
- Timely decisions and approvals
- Availability of resources and infrastructure
- Defined governance and communication processes

All assumptions and dependencies will be recorded and validated as part of the Statement of Work (SoW).