

➔ The Customer

The customer is the largest distributor of vaccines, plasma products and other bio-pharmaceuticals in the USA.

➔ Background

As per current practices, patients are often required to make two or more visits to a physician when being administered a vaccine. They are also often required to make payment up front at the time of their visit and to claim reimbursements from their insurance companies. Additionally, many vaccines need special handling by clinics which increases the cost. This has resulted in undue hardship and financial burden on patients.

To alleviate these issues and to improve client service, the customer created a new scheduler application. This application made it possible for the patient to pay their applicable health insurance co-pay limits and to avoid needless travel and paperwork. Additionally, the scheduler application used a just-in-time shipping concept, making vaccine handling easier for the providers as well. This feature was especially valuable in instances where vaccinations require special handling.

➔ The Problem

A vendor developed the new scheduler for the customer and it was largely untested. The customer wanted the product to be evaluated and validated by an independent Quality Assurance Service Provider before presenting it to the public. The testing of the product posed a challenge as there were no test cases or requirement specification documents from which to work.

➔ The Solutions Methodology

The customer approached PreludeSys to conduct an independent evaluation of the new

scheduler application.

Understanding the Test Requirements

PreludeSys met extensively with the customer to learn and understand the customer's business process, the roles and actions of various users, the expected behavior of the scheduler application, and the probable results.

Test Preparation

PreludeSys prepared a test plan and a test case to evaluate the scheduler system. The PreludeSys QA Team then prepared system and performance tests designed to evaluate the sequence of operations in scheduling and to check if the product would fail any of the possible scenarios in its real life use. These tests were supported by appropriate data to check the behavior of the product under valid and invalid data classes and at boundary values.

Test Execution and Defect Tracking

The test cases were executed per a predetermined test plan. The defects discovered during those tests were recorded by a collaborative, defect-tracking tool throughout their life cycle.

Reporting

At the end of the tests, the results for items, such as defect categorization and behavior of the application under different levels of user load, were summarized into reports. These reports and the defect tracker data were presented to the customer for review.

Standards

PreludeSys followed the IEEE 829 testing standards for all of the testing activities.