ALM Octane

Achieving higher levels of agility, traceability, and predictability is an ongoing journey. ALM Octane helps you improve your development and testing processes to improve the flow of work across software delivery value streams.

Product Highlights

The demand for software-based innovation has accelerated, disrupting nearly every industry and transforming our lives. The need to quickly deliver features or services and create end-user value faster is paramount. It is now a race to remain relevant in today's digital economy—where competitive advantage, revenue growth, and customer loyalty is reliant on high-performing software delivery teams.

With ALM Octane you can tightly align efforts from development to release, and employ a broad range of tests anchored by automation. OpenText fosters an open approach so that work is visible, traceable, and continuously improved. By synchronizing quality and testing with Agile and DevOps processes, risks are mitigated early in the software value stream—speeding the way for faster delivery and improved customer satisfaction.

Key Features
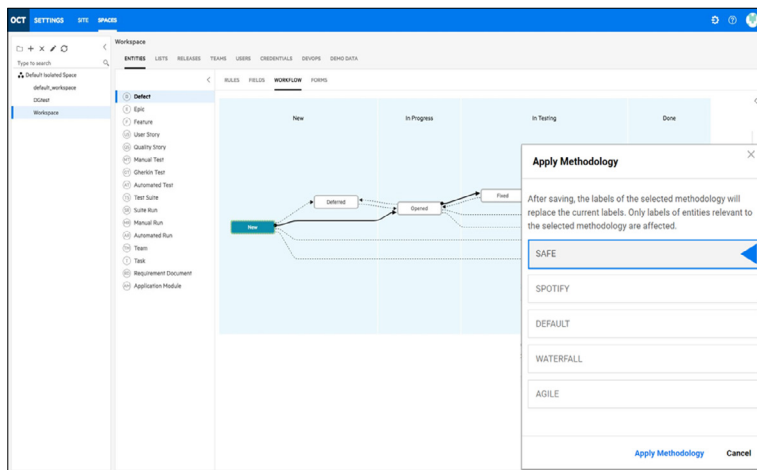
Evolve Your Software Delivery Practices

Not every project or team is similarly structured or works in the same way. More importantly, practices naturally evolve over time. Why adopt a solution that forces you into rigid adherence to a particular approach? Investing in a solution that supports where you are today, while providing a path to the future is a key ingredient to success.

Built for modern methods, ALM Octane is process-agnostic and flexible enough to support transformations from iterative approaches to numerous agile frameworks and DevOps practices. Through pre-configured templates, a flexible rules engine, and an intuitive interface, project teams can quickly customize ALM Octane and augment their existing practices. The flexibility also allows teams to choose their own tools and modify their practices while maintaining connectivity to the larger effort.

Key Benefits

- Accelerate transformations from iterative approaches to agile and DevOps practices.

- Align work from ideation through release—regardless of the number of teams, projects, and locations.

- Scale to thousands of continuous integration-driven (CI) tests, and measure automation effectiveness.

- Unify testing efforts across unit, integration, acceptance, security, and performance.

- Prioritize quality and ensure it at every stage with release management.

- Use dashboards and metrics for a visual, customizable display of progress and quality.

Figure 1. Work in the methodology of your choosing, such as SAFe, Spotify, and more.

Establish Traceability across Value Streams

In most enterprises it is common to have different tools in use by different teams or across projects. The complexity of building and maintaining connections between disparate toolchains often inhibits a continuous ecosystem and makes it more difficult to trace work items across teams and toolchains.

ALM Octane acts as a central hub from which work can be aligned from ideation through release—regardless of the number of teams, projects, and locations. Whether you are using Agile planning tools or want to take advantage of ALM Octane's native capabilities, you can trace quality from points of origin, key associations, both forward and backward, and for auditability. Establishing traceability not only helps you lower defects, increase efficiency, and reduce risks, but also maximize the value of your software development initiatives.

Unify and Calibrate Testing Efforts

Testing remains one of the most common inhibitors to accelerated delivery, resulting in more pressure to better manage, execute, and track tests. You need the ability to understand quality at the product level in order to identify the most critical areas for maximum coverage and minimal risk.

ALM Octane offers broad support from manual testing to CI-driven automation—and everything in between—to gain better consistency, coverage, and traceability. You can create behavior-driven development (BDD) specifications, run Gherkin tests or BDD scenarios, and automate your efforts using Cucumber or JBehave. To minimize rework, ALM Octane supports test reuse, versioning for test cases, and parameterization. Product-level visibility focuses your testing efforts where they really matter—across unit, integration, acceptance, security, and performance tests.
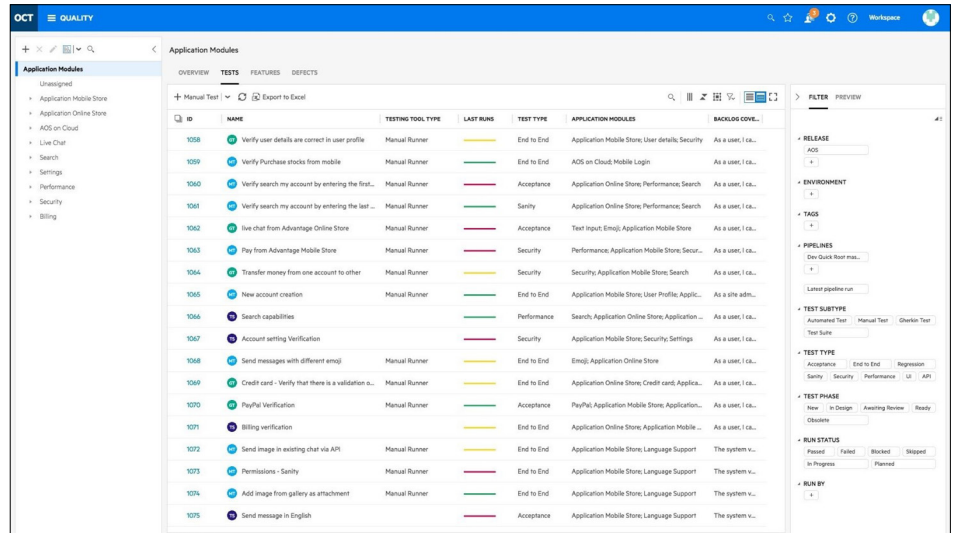

Figure 2. Quickly gauge overall quality in relation to your testing efforts.

Intelligently Automate at Scale

Investment in automation is at the core of any DevOps transformation. However, scaling automation incorrectly may come at a high cost—from upfront manpower to maintaining integrations across tools. But automation is not just about running more tests. It is about becoming more efficient, improving feedback loops, and simplifying maintenance.

ALM Octane helps enterprises accelerate and understand the overall impact of automation
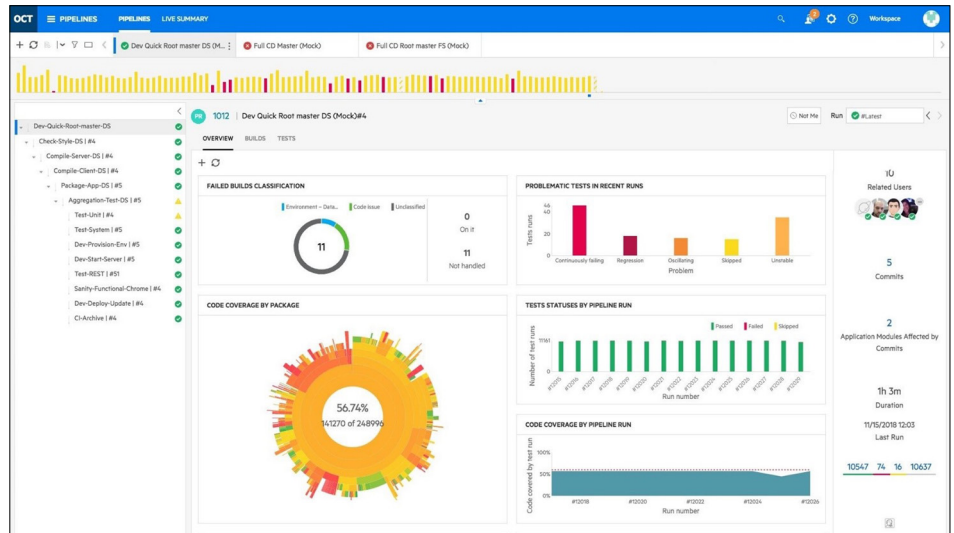

Figure 3. Accelerate and understand the overall impact of automation efforts.

efforts. With out-of-the-box integration with popular CI/CD and SCM tools, ALM Octane incorporates data from your pipelines into the overall process, helping you analyze quality, progress, change impact, code coverage, and more. The ability to scale to thousands of tests coupled with root cause analysis helps detect defects earlier and lower costs. Using automation analytics, you can intelligently decide where to invest for the highest ROI and overall impact. Automation effectiveness can be measured against speed of delivery, regression costs, risk level, and pipeline instability.

Collaborate and Make Work Visible

When teams work in silos, they end up managing a sprawling patchwork of data and processes. When this happens, it becomes harder to get a clear picture of what work is being done, by whom, and when it will be completed. It is easy to waste resources on duplicate work or introduce risk if you have gaps during development.

ALM Octane eases this burden by making work visible and enabling teams to collaborate more effectively. The My Work feature delivers a personalized to-do list of work items, and developers can see up-to-date information directly in their IDE. Cross-project reporting helps managers and stakeholders track work and assess team-level productivity. Collaboration is never more than a click away. Users are always aware of the latest developments in their work stream with email and notification capabilities, and can take action through popular chat tools such as Slack and Microsoft Teams.

Plot a Course for Continuous Improvement

Tracking metrics helps you understand changes or shifts in your current practices. While metrics are essential, gaining insights from data requires more than collecting it. You need an observable way to identify things that are likely to happen before they happen. When combined, you have the right feedback loop to continuously improve.
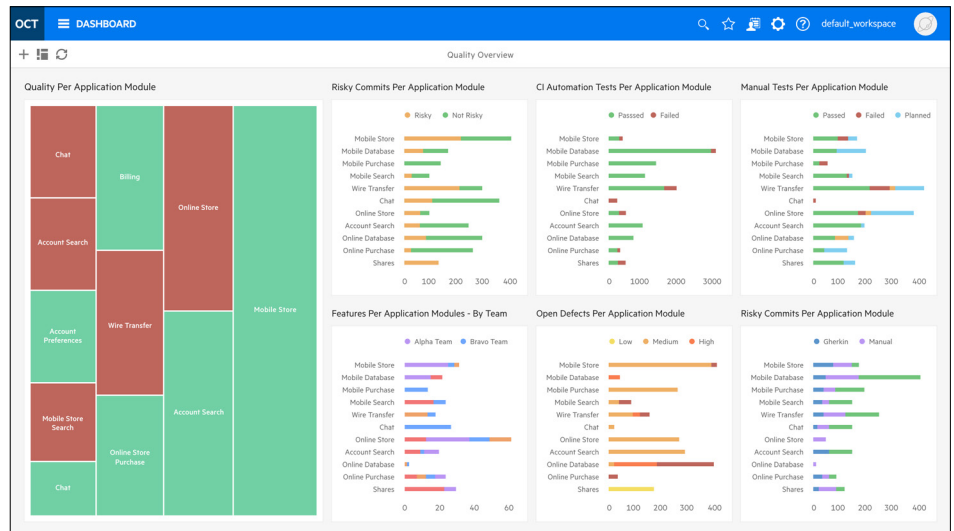

Figure 4. Gain valuable insights with ALM Octane's dashboards and widgets

ALM Octane's embedded dashboarding and insight capabilities allow enterprises to exploit the vast amounts of data generated by connecting the dots across disparate toolchains. You can customize built-in dashboard templates and take advantage of over 45 common metrics to visualize progress and quality. You can observe trends, identify bottlenecks, find correlations, and detect anomalies in your development cycle. Enhanced data visualization with business intelligence tools lets teams view real-time results and manipulate data to make smarter decisions.

Embed Quality Within Release Processes

Instead of releasing new code and hoping for the best, every team should establish a shared understanding of the release process and expectations. This is essential to release high-quality software consistently and block bad code from reaching production.

ALM Octane's release governance capabilities ensure that quality is prioritized and understood at every stage. By enabling managers to establish transparent quality goals in alignment with milestones, ALM Octane helps teams find and fix issues earlier. This provides the framework for a quality-oriented approach to software delivery that reduces the cost of resolution, enables faster delivery, and enables adaptability at scale.

Adapt with a Flexible and Open Architecture

Being able to respond flexibly to needs is essential for digital businesses to stay competitive. There are numerous considerations when choosing an enterprise vendor to navigate potential changes in deployment, licensing, and integration.

ALM Octane facilitates a tailored and scalable approach for large enterprises. You can deploy your way and minimize infrastructure needs with options spanning on-premises, SaaS, and public cloud (Amazon Web Services and Microsoft Azure). Similarly, various licensing options can tailor the features to meet specific needs with support for thousands of concurrent users in geographically disperse locations.

> "With ALM Octane we have gained more confidence from the business. It is easy to use, integrates seamlessly, and it's compatible with a wide range of platforms and browsers. We have received really positive feedback, including 'ALM Octane is the new brain' which is music to our ears."

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Easily Integrate with Existing Tools

An open approach brings together and enhances the technologies DevOps and Agile teams need to work their way. ALM Octane easily integrates with open source tools and third-party solutions, providing comprehensive end-to-end control of the software delivery stream. You can also expand integrations to applications of your choice by using ALM Octane's REST API, OData and SDKs.

Category	Supported Integrations
Developer Environments	Visual Studio, Eclipse, IntelliJ
Agile Planning	Jira
Source Code Management	Git, GitHub, Subversion
CI Servers	Jenkins, Bamboo, TeamCity, Azure DevOps, GoCD, GitLab
Containers	Docker, Kubernetes, Swarm
Open Source Test Automation	Gatling, JMeter, Junit, Nunit, Selenium
Vulnerabilities and Code Coverage	Fortify, SonarQube, Jacoco, LCOV
Collaboration	Slack, Microsoft Teams

ALM Octane's native integrations can be easily extended with a free add-on, OpenText Connect Core. It synchronizes data and relationships between ALM Octane and third-party solutions, and lowers administrative costs by replacing point-to-point integration with a single integration hub and connector framework. You will have complete visibility and traceability as data flows seamlessly and stays up to date, collaboration is increased since you can correlate different fields between the tools, and you can maintain existing investments and assets as even as your processes change.

Smart Software Delivery

When combined with other OpenText solutions, your organization can build a software factory that scales. Simply use the solutions that fit your needs, and leverage a connected ecosystem that delivers smarter insights, tighter collaboration, and better cost savings.

- UFT Family tests can be executed from ALM Octane for functional and mobile testing.
- LoadRunner Family tests can be added to ALM Octane to reflect performance engineering results.
- Fortify integration brings security testing into your development cycle.
- Project & Portfolio Management augments ALM Octane with strategic planning and lean portfolio management.
- ALM/Quality Center test results can be injected into ALM Octane to combine both modern and iterative practices.

Learn more at
www.microfocus.com/alm-octane

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