MAVEN

MaxTAF
Maximo® Test Automation Framework

CASE STUDY

Sacramento Area Sewer District

How performance testing was leveraged to ensure Maximo upgrade success

Let our expertise be your *success*.

At Maven Asset Management, we use our years of experience to create your next success story. We believe that having a partner who is invested in your business is critical to success. We will formulate the exact thing you need for a successful partnership and provide expert solutions.

Headquartered in Tampa, Florida, Maven was founded in 2008 by a group of asset management consultants who wanted to break the mold of traditional consulting. We have a knack for developing innovative and less obvious solutions, which instinctively keeps us challenging the status quo. Our exceptionally high customer satisfaction reviews are a direct result of developing close partnerships with each of our clients. We prioritize working closely with your team, being attuned and adaptable to your organization's needs.

Learn more about the #MavenExperience by reviewing this case study.

Let's connect,

Jennifer Gatza, CEO

MAVEN

The Sacramento Area Sewer District (SacSewer), which collects wastewater from many Sacramento area homes and businesses, uses IBM software to help predict equipment problems in its wastewater collection system.

Maven worked with SacSewer to upgrade their IBM Maximo Asset Management application to create a baseline performance measurement for Maximo to support changes introduced in 7.6.1.x. SacSewer and Maven configured user journeys to simulate high-volume activities and potential performance bottlenecks, including using GIS maps via Maximo Spatial. Together, they simulated up to 300 concurrent connections over a 24-hour time period, and generated a report identifying performance delays.

This upgrade project required close collaboration between IT, management, vendors, and business users to ensure precise, informed decisions were made. This communication and flexibility was critical to success.

Hardware Analysis and Selection

Due to the global hardware shortage, caused by pandemic related supply chain issues, hardware delivery dates were continually pushed back, delaying the project. A temporary measure involving hosting Maximo on virtual machines was examined; however, it revealed fundamental issues with this strategy which resulted in a no-go decision.

User Feedback

When examining the virtual machine option, the standard data gathered during testing looked as if the system was working well. However, while the system was under testing, users also logged into Maximo to provide their feedback. Compared to the standard data their feedback was that the system was performing unacceptably. It was slow and behaving inconsistently. This prompted a deeper drill-down into resource usage metrics, and eventually the bottleneck was discovered. Once the intended physical hardware was delivered, and performance testing was repeated, a go-live decision was made confidently. This was based on green-lights from the user team, healthy looking data gathered by the performance tools, and good resource usage metrics from system monitoring.

Performance testing was a requirement for the Maximo upgrade project from the start.

Analysis of historical data on activities within Maximo allowed for the creation of accurate Maximo usage emulation. This resulted in trustworthy performance testing enabling a confident decision not to proceed in 2022 and

SACSEWER AT-A-GLANCE

4,600
Miles of Interconnected Pipes Underground

165 M
Gallons of Water Treated Daily

280,000
Service Connections

400,000
Assets in Maximo

INSIGHTS

Agile & Flexible • Collaborative • Adaptable • Partnership • User-Friendly
Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) • Standardization • Automated Performance Testing

SOLUTION

Maven successfully analyzed historical data to allow for the creation of accurate Maximo usage. This resulted in trustworthy performance testing. Maven engaged MaxTAF to achieve this. Testing was automated using MaxTAF's Cloud, a Selenium-based testing tool designed for Maximo. SacSewer and Maven generated reports identifying performance delays and the performance requirements. In addition to uploading the data for SacSewer, Maven provided software configuration components of the Maximo project while SacSewer continued to wait for the new hardware to be delivered. Maven, MaxTAF, and SacSewer learned a valuable lesson: System performance must first, and foremost, be driven by the user-team rather than IT. Users must always make the final call.

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