Closed Beta testing What's effective, what's not? Raul Liive Tallinn – 4.06.2012

Agenda

- About me
- The background
- Goals of beta testing
- Running a beta program
- Keep in mind

About me

- Raul Liive
- 6 years in Skype
 - Closed Beta program
 - Blogging
 - Outsourcing
- Experience from IT end user issue solving and support
- Masters student in the DDVE



Who is a beta tester?

"A beta tester is someone who tests a product before it is released. Beta testers help companies identify weak points in their products which could cause consumer frustration, raise questions and they also identify specific technical issues in the product."

What is beta testing?







Goals of beta testing

Why to Beta test?

- Can be combined with usability studies
- Can be combined with telemetry
- Early feedback
- Reduced costs
- Better user engagement
- Less churn

Goals of Beta testing

- Feedback on general usability and design
- Detection of "forgotten" use cases
- Issue finding
- Market validation
- Detection of potential customer inquiries
- Viral marketing
- Hiring



Running a beta program

Setting up a beta program

- Choose thoroughly communication and collaboration tools
- It's a key to choose right participants
- Set clear goals
- Set clear expectations
- Be fast
- Incentives are great
- Confidentiality

What works?

- Intimate personal communications
- Close group of people who know each others
- Well chosen group size fosters communications and collaboration
- Collaboration with other companies
- Events are great to raise motivation



What does not work?

- Incentives are great, but some people might focus only on them
- Beta testers feature requests in general
- Impersonal communications
- Reporting to black hole
- Large groups of testers

Example

Installijuhend

Paigalduspakid

- Mac OS X
- Ubuntu
- Fedora
- Open SUSE

Testraport ja testilood

Lähtekood

Testitulemused ja märkused saata aadressile:

Tagasiside raporti kirjeldus

Beetatestimisest huvitatud isik saab koostada testtulemuste kohta tagasiside raporti.

Kvaliteetne tagasiside raport peaks sisaldama järgmisi punkte:

- Testitud mooduli nimi (DigiDoc klient, Utiliit, Crypto, JDigiDoc teek jne)
- Testloo number ja nimetus, mille kohta märkus/viga leiti (näiteks TC2564 + Allkirjastamine kliendist juurdepääsutöend on olemas + bdoc).
- Kui märkus/viga on leitud testloo väliselt tuleb see eraldi ära märkida (näiteks DigiDOc Klient ei käivitunud üldse vms)
- Operatsioonisüsteem koos täpse versiooniga (näiteks Ubuntu 10.04 64 bit)
- Kaardilugeja tüüp (näiteks Omnikey 1021)
- ID-kaardi baastarkvara versioon (näiteks qdigidoc versioon qdigidoc_3.0.BUILD.578.80 (näiteks Ubuntu all saab seda teada käsuga aptitude show qdigidoc))
- Detailne kirjeldus seisneb tuvastatud märkus/viga?
- Testija nimi ja ISIKUKOOD

Tagaside raport palun edastada

Keep in mind

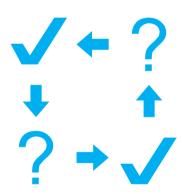








QUESTIONS?



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Thank you!

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