Test Purpose

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Discussion

A **Test Purpose** identifies why a Test or related testing construct is performed.

The concept is aligned with the Test Information Interchange Format (TestIF), where Test Purpose provides a textual description of the reason for a test.

Within DIDO-TE, Test Purpose provides the semantic rationale for conducting testing and may be used to organize, select, govern, or interpret related Test Objects.

A Test Purpose is distinct from:

- a test objective, which may state a specific measurable outcome
- a Requirement, which establishes a normative obligation
- Validation criteria, which determine how results are evaluated
- a Test Set, which groups related Test Objects for the defined Test Purpose

Definition

The reason for performing a Test or grouping related Test Objects.

Source

- Object Management Group, Test Information Interchange Format (TestIF) 1.0, `TestSet.testPurpose`
- [DTE4] DIDO Reference Data Model

Note

A Test Purpose describes the intended reason or motivation for testing rather than the procedure used to perform the Test.

Examples of Test Purposes may include:

- demonstrating conformance with a specified requirement
- evaluating interoperability between implementations
- determining whether a Node behaves correctly under a defined network condition
- evaluating performance under a specified workload
- verifying behavior following a state transition

- comparing two candidate implementations

A single Test Purpose may be associated with multiple Test Objects.

A Test Set may group related Test Objects that contribute to the same Test Purpose.

Example

For a Test Set containing Test Cases that evaluate Node behavior following loss and restoration of network connectivity, the Test Purpose may be:

> Determine whether a Node maintains and restores the required operational behavior when network connectivity is interrupted and subsequently restored.

The individual Test Cases define specific conditions and actions used to evaluate that purpose.

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