



## Firms warned of danger over compromised IT testing

**IT testing is being compromised** by a lack of internal resources, coupled with a reluctance to outsource the service to an external partner, according to a survey commissioned by LogicaCMG. Over half of respondents don't believe that sufficient resources are currently committed internally to testing. When questioned further, 63% admitted that an outsourced testing service would improve the quality of software releases. However, the cost of employing an outsourcing partner is perceived to be too high by over 50% of respondents. As a result, only a third of the companies polled currently outsource their testing process.

With the research based on interviews with 70 IT directors/project managers, LogicaCMG is warning businesses that they need to commit dedicated resources to software testing, or risk losing the quality of soft and hardware implementations, and lengthening project timetables. 'Whilst it

might seem that an outsourced testing service may be more costly in the short-term, the long-term benefits, such as reducing project failure, will ultimately ensure ROI,' said Jon McKellar, associate director, managed testing at LogicaCMG.

McKellar believes that testing is an integral part of IT project management and, therefore, requires dedicated resources for it to be effective. 'However, as it's not part of the core business, it doesn't always get the attention it deserves,' he said. 'In the current times, it's easy to look at the cost of testing and ignore the value. Outsourcing guarantees that sufficient testing is taking place, so that problems can be identified at the start, rather than developing into major issues later down the line. It also means that costs can be controlled and monitored effectively, which is vital in the current environment.'