Release Notes "Certified Tester Foundation Level Syllabus Version 2018 V3.1"

On October 18, 2019 the ISTQB® General Assembly voted on and approved the Foundation Syllabus 2018 V3.1 for release.

It is a minor update, because it has less than or equal to 5% changes of Learning Objectives, as described in section 3.6.1 in ISTQB® Accreditation Process, version 2.1 document.

A minor update does not require re-accreditation of Training Providers.
In this case the accredited body shall submit a letter of confirmation stating it has reviewed the training material and has done the needed changes.

The effective date for the new syllabus is November 11th. 2019.

For all national boards who today provide Foundation Syllabus version 2018 in English, they must no later than 6 months after the release of Foundation Syllabus version 2018 V3.1:

1) retire their old Foundation Syllabus version 2018 in English
2) only use the English version of the Foundation Syllabus version 2018 V3.1 in their market.

For all national boards who currently provide exam in the Foundation Syllabus version 2018 in English, they must no later than 6 months after the release of Foundation Syllabus version 2018 V3.1 ensure all exam questions are still valid also in relation to the Foundation Syllabus version 2018 V3.1.

For all national boards who today provide Foundation Syllabus version 2018 in their local language, they must no later than 12 months after the release of Foundation Syllabus version 2018 V3.1:

1) retire their old Foundation Syllabus version 2018 translated to local language
2) and either provide an updated / new translation of Foundation Syllabus version 2018 V3.1 in their local language
3) or only use the English version of the Foundation Syllabus version 2018 V3.1 in their market.

For all national boards who today provide exams for the Foundation Syllabus version 2018 in their local language, they must no later than 12 months of the release of Foundation Syllabus version 2018 V3.1 ensure all exam questions still are valid also in relation to the Foundation Syllabus version 2018 V3.1.

For public use, after approval at ISTQB® GA meeting in Bengaluru October 18th 2019

The implication of the localization plan is that within 6 months of the release for the English and 12 months for the release of the Non-English of the Foundation Syllabus version 2018 V3.1, there will be no further activity for either the English or Non-English version of the 2018 syllabus in any national or regional board.

What has been released.

1. An updated clean version of the Certified Tester Foundation Level Syllabus Version 2018 V3.1
2. An updated with track changes visible version of the Certified Tester Foundation Level Syllabus Version 2018 V3.1
3. Release Note document (this document).

Change log.

Training Providers, Exam Providers, Member Boards and Students of the Syllabus should be aware of the changes listed below. Additional all changes including textual changes not listed below, can be viewed in the Foundation Syllabus version with track changes.

- Chapter 1:
  - o "Test Process" added as keyword.
  - o Bullet list in section 1.1.1 have been updated and numbers of bullets reduced.
  - o Minor textual changes.
- Chapter 2:
  - o "Change-related testing" added as keyword.
  - o End of section 2.1.2 three bullets are added regarding adaption of software development models.
  - o Minor textual changes.
- Chapter 3:
  - o Four keywords updated, all had an ending with "-ing" in the 2018 version:
    - ▪ ad-hoc review,
    - ▪ checklist-based review,
    - ▪ role-based review,
    - ▪ scenario-based review.
  - o Three paragraphs have been moved up to the front of section 3.2.3 Review Types. No changes to content.
  - o In section 3.2.4 Role-based review have been moved after Perspective-based review.
  - o Minor textual changes.
- Chapter 4:
  - o Section 4.1.1 have been merged with the introduction of 4.1 and section 4.1.2 is now renamed to 4.1.1 creating a clear link with learning objective 4.1.1.
  - o Section 4.2.2 Boundary Value Analysis, the value 9 has been removed from the example.
  - o Section 4.2.3 Decision Table Testing have had the paragraphs regarding combinatorial test technique and guard conditions deleted and the text rephrased for better understandability.
  - o Section 4.4.1 "mistake" replaced with "error".
  - o Minor textual changes.

- Chapter 5:
    - "Defect report" added as a keyword.
    - Minor textual changes.
- Chapter 6:
    - "Performance testing tool" have been deleted as a keyword.
    - Number of tools listed in section 6.1.1 Test Tool Classification have been reduced from 26 to 13.
    - Section 6.1.3 about test execution tool have been edited into 3 bullets and text has been re-formulated.
    - Minor textual changes.
- General:
    - Reference to ISTQB® syllabus have been updated in all chapters to only include the abbreviation used as listed in chapter 7 References and the section ISTQB® documents.

18th of October 2019

Klaus Olsen

Chair ISTQB® Foundation Working Group