Tricentis

NeoLoad vs LoadRunner:
What's the ROI

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DETERMINING THE ROI OF PERFORMANCE TESTING SOFTWARE

You know it; we know it. Evaluating the cost of software requires consideration beyond license fees. In a sea of backlogs and to-dos, making thoughtful decisions generates more work. Let's strike one more thing off your to-do list by evaluating the critical decision points to select performance testing software.

Consider this first. The biggest value to gain from performance testing platforms is failing faster. By spending less time creating, maintaining, and deciphering tests and results, you can spend more time identifying bottlenecks, understanding root causes, and fixing issues. Your time to market speeds up, and application reliability is predictable.

How exactly?

> *"We scripted tests using NeoLoad in one day, down from four days to write the same scripts in LoadRunner."*

verizon✓

SCRIPTS, SCRIPTS, SCRIPTS

How a performance testing tool generates scripts, and maintains them, informs a lot about cost and time savings.

The simple approach that Tricentis NeoLoad uses to create and maintain scripts is the number one value it brings to the table. When we ask our enterprise customers, "Why did you choose NeoLoad?" we hear time and again: "It's faster and easier to create and update test scripts." How much faster? Maintaining scripts is mostly automated in NeoLoad. In contrast, in products like LoadRunner, testers are required to re-write the entire test script each time the code changes. Multiply that times the number of updates and we will be here all day. Also, NeoLoad works for advanced performance engineers as well as for developers, testers, and operations teams.

With the move to DevOps, it is important that your testing tools accommodate all team types and skills. Depending on the needs and skills of the users, they create test scripts in NeoLoad either with a graphical user interface (GUI) drag-and-drop tool, or as code within YAML files or in a command-line interface.

There's also another test script advantage that NeoLoad has over LoadRunner and it has to do with protocol versus browser-based testing. Building a test case for a complex single web application through protocol test scripts is costly and tedious. With LoadRunner, users only get a glimpse of the testing picture because it just offers protocol-based testing.

But NeoLoad RealBrowser gives the full picture with both protocol-based testing alongside browser-based testing. So teams can stay in one tool and analyze end-to-end performance data side-by-side. RealBrowser eliminates the need to understand complex protocol-level scripts with an approach that simplifies performance testing for browser-based applications. And a single solution means cost savings, more productivity, and less inefficiency.

Why choose a testing platform that offers only one approach or the other, when you can have both?

PRICE ISN'T THE ONLY COST

What are the cost considerations for performance testing software beyond the license fees? In the case of performance and load testing software, infrastructure is often a most costly aspect for managers to oversee.

Consider the following: whether you use bare metal, VMs, containers, or a blended model, generating load that simulates real-world user behavior requires substantial hardware. Depending on how performance software is licensed and what deployment models they support, some performance testing platforms require more hardware than others, for the same tests under the same load.

> *"NeoLoad natively integrates with OpenShift and Kubernetes to optimize your load testing infrastructure costs."*

RED HAT® OPENSHIFT

For example, with NeoLoad's dynamic infrastructure, you can easily set up testing resources as needed and automatically free up resources as tests complete. As you use test infrastructure efficiently, you improve total cost of ownership of both hardware and software.

COST OF DOING BUSINESS

Another barometer is the ease (or difficulty) of working with a software vendor. Enterprise support, customer relationship management, the process to deploy and upgrade software are all costs of doing business. Tricentis NeoLoad continues to be lauded as the enterprise vendor with the premier customer support and satisfaction because when you reach out, a person answers your call and they know who you are and are prepared to help you.

On top of that, NeoLoad takes only a few hours to deploy via a simple Docker image downloaded automatically. In contrast, Performance Center/LoadRunner takes days to connect to servers and databases, and requires highly specialized resources. Upgrading LoadRunner is a huge project that takes weeks to months. Whereas, you can upgrade and deploy even NeoLoad's largest configurations in only 10 days at the most.

> *"The NeoLoad team was better than excellent! What took 4+ weeks with our old provider was responded to immediately and resolved quickly by NeoLoad."*
>
> **paysafe**card

DEVOPS TRANSFORMATION

Most enterprises are somewhere on the path to DevOps, from general goals to implement DevOps in the future to fully equipped as DevOps organizations today. Regardless of where you are today in your digital transformation, it is a good idea to be prepared and choose software that equips you for both traditional and Agile testing. Why? Modern application and deployment architectures require tools that fit.

With NeoLoad you can automate performance testing into continuous integration and continuous delivery pipelines with its as-code capabilities. With the movement to microservices, serverless, and

> *"We moved from LoadRunner to NeoLoad for its superior Agile & DevOps support."*
>
> **Guardian**®

► COST OF DOING NOTHING

infrastructure as code, NeoLoad maps to these architectures and removes the need to hand script redundant code, so you can get all the benefits of modern approaches and dynamic cost savings.

Moving to a DevOps, SaaS, microservices, serverless, or cloud infrastructure model gives some teams a false sense of performance reliability. Although these models provide modern software development life cycle (SDLC) benefits, they don't implicitly prevent performance issues.

In fact, they present entirely new performance considerations that other tools aren't designed to natively support. For example, consider the case of microservices and SaaS. Like security vulnerabilities, performance bottlenecks present themselves at the code and/or system levels. To ensure that applications perform under load, both levels require testing. At the microservices level, Rest API testing is critical to find potential performance bottlenecks in the code and to ensure the microservice performs under load simulation. Even if each individual microservice is running well under load, the application requires system-wide, end-to-end testing to ensure it performs on the cluster in a SaaS model.

While other performance testing software takes an either/or approach, NeoLoad natively supports both API and end-to-end system-wide performance testing. Investing in a performance testing platform designed to support the diversity of your application architectures, operations, and deployment models will save your organization much more than the cost of performance testing software. Reckon this: what is the cost of not adapting to new methodologies like DevOps because QA is stuck?

"We use NeoLoad to standardize our performance testing in a DevOps environment."

ACCOR

► ELASTIC COMPUTING TO MANAGE LOAD

Elastic computing is a disruptive technology innovation that promises on-demand computing power at scale, for lower costs. And it delivers. However, relying solely on elastic computing to scale in lieu of load testing can hide performance and load bottlenecks. If a microservice or application isn't scaling, cloud computing platforms simply apply more infrastructure resources to meet enduser demands on an application. But who pays and who saves in that scenario?

As many companies move from on-premises to the cloud, the expectation is that the applications will perform as well or better after migration. Monitoring these new architectures for performance degradation is critical to ensure the benchmark level of performance, without raising the cost. For example, if a developer modifies a function in a way that accesses the backend database 10 times in parallel, due to the cloud architecture, the same performance level of the application deployed on-premises now costs 10 times more. The CPU costs multiply at this scale, defeating the purpose of cloud deployments.

With NeoLoad, testers identify quickly and clearly where a degradation exists and points to its root cause, which eliminates the need to bandage performance issues with additional costly hardware scaling. Here, NeoLoad directly affects ROI of elastic computing costs as it ensures code is performing efficiently and not using excess hardware to appear stable.

> *"We saw an 80% reduction in costs while NeoLoad generated 1.2 million virtual users from Neotys Cloud Platform in 15 minutes to prep for our busiest day of the year, Boxing Day."*

THE RETURN

To determine the ROI for your organization, consider the effort and time required to implement performance testing software, script tests, deploy upgrades, get support, and whether the product was designed for traditional approaches, modern approaches, or both. **With performance testing software that enables your team to test quickly and accurately, you'll reap the benefits of an ROI**. A test you can trust means an app you can trust in production, with fewer failures and a better user experience. If users experience an app that doesn't perform, they'll simply move to one that does.

ABOUT TRICENTIS

Tricentis is a global leader in enterprise continuous testing. The Tricentis AI-based, continuous testing portfolio of products provide a new and fundamentally different way to perform software testing. An approach that's totally automated, fully codeless, and intelligently driven by AI. It addresses both agile development and complex enterprise apps, enabling enterprises to accelerate their digital transformation by dramatically increasing software release speed, reducing costs, and improving software quality. Widely credited for reinventing software testing for DevOps, cloud, and enterprise applications, Tricentis has been recognized as a leader by all major industry analysts, including Forrester, Gartner, and IDC. Tricentis has more than 3,000 customers, including the largest brands in the world, such as McKesson, Allianz, Telstra, Dolby, and Vodafone.

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