



TESTERY

# How Testery Helped Smartcare Embrace Devops and Test Their Azure Services

## CASE STUDY



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LJ Kyser  
CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER, SMARTCARE



## HIGHLIGHTS

### CHALLENGES

Startup that was outgrowing its current approach to QA

Complex, back-end systems requiring full-stack testing

Pressure to deliver features leaving little time for process improvements

### SOLUTION

Implement end-to-end tests for billing system and API

Integrate with CI/CD and run tests in parallel

Help team transition to automated testing

### RESULTS

Increased test coverage for billing system and API's

Tests integrated with CI/CD and running in parallel

Manual QA team transitioned to automated testing

## THE CLIENT

Smartcare provides a cohesive child care center software solution for managing a single center or a multi-site system.

As a B2B SaaS startup that makes managing child care centers easy, their back-end systems deal with the complexity of billing schedules, child attendance, payment methods, and more.

And since their customers rely on their system to collect revenue - and therefore make payroll in some cases - their back-end systems simply must work.

## THE CHALLENGES

If you've ever worked for a fast-paced, well-funded startup, you know that there are moments where you put off important things to ship sooner. Inevitably, if you survive long enough, you reach a point where your continued success requires coming back to those things.

While some startup CTOs might get stuck in the day-to-day, the experienced startup CTO knows when to embrace change in order to take their team to the next level.

This is where LJ Kyser, the CTO of Smartcare, found himself last summer.

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Additionally, Smartcare was faced with needing to test a modern infrastructure, composed of various Azure services, native UI's, API's, queues, etc. that must all work together once deployed. Simply unit testing each component independently was no longer sufficient.

Although there were skilled members of the Smartcare team fully capable of implementing test automation, the neverending pressure to deliver features and support a rapidly growing customer base left little time for process improvements. Smartcare needed something soon, done correctly the first time, and without distracting from feature development. Fortunately, they found Testery.

## THE SOLUTION

Unlike some other vendors, the Testery Professional Services team are software developers first. Because of this, the team was able to review the existing code base to get a better idea of what kind of tests to implement, where to implement them, what frameworks would work for the team, etc.

In addition to implementing test automation and integrating it with CI/CD, the Testery team also provided training, examples, and guidance, so that the Smartcare team could spend less time thinking about how to test, and more time cranking out features and thinking about what to test.

The tests run on the Testery Cloud Platform, which provides the ability to ensure that merges into protected branches don't happen until the tests are run, sends notifications to Slack, and provides accountability into which tests were run and in which environments.

## THE RESULTS

In just six months, over seven hundred functional tests were implemented, including tests that interact directly with Azure queue workers and back-end API's. These tests are triggered from TeamCity and run on the Testery Cloud in around 5 minutes.

“I looked at improving developer quality of life in as many ways as possible. For example, improving our build processes and speed create quality of life improvements that impact retention, job satisfaction, efficiency, and effectiveness. Those are all things I care about.”

The new tests found some critical issues --- which were able to be fixed before shipping to customers. billing system was undergoing a fairly significant re-write, but with Testery's help, Smartcare was able to document the previous billing system's requirements in the form of executable tests. When the new billing system was tested against the old system's functional tests, a number of major issues were identified. The issues were fixed prior to going to production, and as a result, zero customers were impacted - a big win.

# Don't let the day-to-day own your day. Embrace better.

Testery's next-generation testing grid  
and experienced test automation professionals  
will help you implement testing best practices.

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