

SFIA EU ICT Roles - Illustrative skills profile



Profile title	TEST SPECIALIST ROLE (23)		
Summary statement	Designs and performs testing plans.		
Mission	Ensures delivered or existing products, applications or services comply with technical and user needs and specifications. For existing systems, applications, innovations and changes; diagnoses failure of products or services to meet specification.		
Deliverables	Accountable	Responsible	Contributor
		Test Plan Test Procedure Test Result	Integrated Solution Validated Solution Solution Documentation
Main task/s	 Select and develop integration testing techniques to ensure the system meets requirements. Design and customize integration tests, identify open issues. Organise test plans and procedures for white and black box testing at unit, module, system and integration levels. Establish procedures for result analysis and reporting. Design and implement defect tracking and correction procedures Write test program to assess software quality Develop tools to increase test effectiveness 		

The table above is an extract from European ICT professionals role profiles Ref. No. CWA 16458-1:2018 E @ 2018 CEN

The following pages map SFIA skills and competency levels to the role profile. There are 2 parts to the mapping:

• The Level of responsibility.

A common language is used to describe levels of responsibility across roles in all professional disciplines. The SFIA Framework consists of seven levels of responsibility; Level 1, the lowest, to Level 7, the highest. The levels describe the behaviours, values, knowledge and characteristics that an individual should have in order to be identified as competent at the level. Each of the levels is also labelled with a phrase to summarise the level of responsibility.

• The Professional skills.

SFIA 7 consists of 102 professional skills. Each skill description is made up of an overall definition of the skill and a description of the skill at each of up to seven levels.

The skill level descriptions provide a detailed definition of what it means to practice the skill at each level of competency. The skill level descriptions are aligned to the 7 levels of responsibility which ensures consistency throughout the SFIA framework making it solid and robust across professional disciplines.





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SFIA Generic Responsibility Levels for the Role

Autonomy - Level 4

- · Works under general direction within a clear framework of accountability
- Exercises substantial personal responsibility and autonomy
- Plans own work to meet given objectives and processes

Influence - Level 4

- Influences customers, suppliers and partners at account level
- May have some responsibility for the work of others and for the allocation of resources
- Participates in external activities related to own specialism
- Makes decisions which influence the success of projects and team objectives
- Collaborates regularly with team members, users and customers
- Engages to ensure that user needs are being met throughout

Complexity - Level 4

- Work includes a broad range of complex technical or professional activities, in a variety of contexts
- Investigates, defines and resolves complex issues

Knowledge - Level 4

- Has a thorough understanding of recognised generic industry bodies of knowledge and specialist bodies of knowledge as necessary
- Has gained a thorough knowledge of the domain of the organisation
- Is able to apply the knowledge effectively in unfamiliar situations and actively maintains own knowledge and contributes to the development of others
- Rapidly absorbs new information and applies it effectively
- Maintains an awareness of developing practices and their application and takes responsibility for driving own development

Businesss Skills - Level 4

- Communicates fluently, orally and in writing, and can present complex information to both technical and non-technical audiences
- Plans, schedules and monitors work to meet time and quality targets
- Facilitates collaboration between stakeholders who share common objectives
- Selects appropriately from applicable standards, methods, tools and applications
- Fully understands the importance of security to own work and the operation of the organisation
- Seeks specialist security knowledge or advice when required to support own work or work of immediate colleagues



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SFIA Professional Skills for the Role

Core - all people performing this job will need this skill. Optional - some people performing this job will need the skill.

Core: Testing @ Level 4

- Accepts responsibility for creation of test cases using own in-depth technical analysis of both functional and non-functional specifications (such as reliability, efficiency, usability, maintainability and portability)
- Creates traceability records, from test cases back to requirements
- Produces test scripts, materials and regression test packs to test new and amended software or services
- Specifies requirements for environment, data, resources and tools
- Interprets, executes and documents complex test scripts using agreed methods and standards
- Records and analyses actions and results, and maintains a defect register
- Reviews test results and modifies tests if necessary
- Provides reports on progress, anomalies, risks and issues associated with the overall project
- Reports on system quality and collects metrics on test cases
- Provides specialist advice to support others

Core: Methods and tools @ Level 4

- Provides advice / guidance / expertise to support adoption of methods and tools and adherence to policies and standards, process tailoring in line with agreed standards and evaluation of methods and tools
- Reviews and improves usage and application of methods and tools