sharecare

INDUSTRY: Hospitals and Healthcare

COMPANY SIZE: 501-1000

Sharecare Scales From Manual To Mobile With Sauce Labs

Summary

- Sharecare, founded in part by Dr. Oz and Oprah, is a wellness platform that provides personalized programs to improve users' health. Beginning with just a website, the team needed to scale quickly to accommodate their 2 mobile apps.

- After automating their testing process with Sauce Labs, time spent for each deploy fell from 7 days to 1 day. With more free time, the team is able to focus on scaling their mobile testing with Appium and employing new best practices such as mobile CI.

- Sauce's video recording and debugging tools enables their teams to collaborate in multiple cities quickly.

The Challenge

Founded in part by Dr. Oz and Oprah, Sharecare is a wellness platform that provides personalized health resources and programs to improve users' health. The site has expanded to include 2 mobile apps on iOS and Android. The RealAge Test helps users learn their body's true age, while AskMD provides a symptom checker that lists users' potential health issues.

Prior to using Sauce Labs, Sharecare's entire testing process was manual. Setting up and maintaining internal VMs was difficult and wasted hours of developer time. Their full stack regression process involved manual testing that took up to a week to complete. With big name backing, their traffic continued to increase, so the team set out to automate their processes.

"We knew our testing tool needed to scale with us, work cross-platform and on any OS, be easy to use, and provide detailed post-test reporting to enable us to diagnose failures. Sauce was a natural fit," says Daniel Gempesaw, Software Testing Architect for Sharecare.

> " Sauce enables us to do our mobile app testing as easily as we do our web testing."

Daniel Gempesaw
Software Testing Architect

Sauce LABS

The Solution

Today, Sharecare's QA team of 12 authors Gherkin-style features in Honeydew for their applications that then kick off tests on Sauce.

The QA team runs 10 projects with 1-3 builds per day, per project. They run upwards of 1350 tests every day, often with over 30 in parallel. Depending on the project, today a full stack front end regression test is now often completed within a day and includes manual spot review of any new functionality. They also do automated regression checks on previous functionality. "If we had to maintain 30 pristine machines with on-demand availability instead of using Sauce, it would have been a full time job," says Daniel.

With an automated solution in place, Sharecare recently expanded their testing suite to include their mobile applications as well. They currently use Appium to run their mobile tests on standard iOS simulators and the plain HAXM accelerated Android emulators. Says Daniel, "Sauce enables us to do mobile app testing as easily as we do our web testing. We use the same Gherkin syntax that our testers are used to, and we don't have to integrate any new reports or formatting into our dashboard."

Finally, the team uses Sauce Connect to test behind their firewall. "We use it every day, 24 hours a day. It's vital to our process. Without Sauce Connect, we'd be completely lost," says Daniel.

The Results

Sauce Labs' videos, screenshots, and in-session debugging tools have enabled employees to work together while in different cities. "It's a big part of what allows me to work remotely and to continue to easily communicate with my team," says Daniel. "We can troubleshoot together using video, so the process is almost instantaneous. It's a huge time-saver."

Since using Sauce, the team is able to focus on automating more processes and expanding best practices and new industry standards such as mobile CI. Recently they've started to use Appium, a cross-platform mobile automation framework, and are in the process of pulling their mobile apps into TeamCity, their CI system. Currently, Github commits kick off their mobile regression tests that run on Sauce and they're working on integrating those test results into their feedback loop. Says Daniel, "for mobile in particular, Sauce is great. We'd face a lot of problems if we had to maintain a functional mobile lab on our own."

Lastly, having access to every version of every browser has an added benefit of making onboarding easy. "There isn't a long set up process for new team members' VMs any more. There's no need to debug unique issues on each new laptop. We just use Sauce Labs, and it's smooth sailing," says Daniel.

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Daniel Gempesaw
Software Testing Architect