

# Don Welsh

Principal QA Engineer | SDET | Test Automation Leader

25+ years in software testing, 20+ years in automation, focused on trusted QA systems that balance delivery speed with real confidence.

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Results-oriented testing professional with 25+ years of hands-on experience across the software testing lifecycle and 20+ years of automation specialization. Deep expertise spans Selenium (since 2004), Cypress, Playwright, API and performance testing, CI quality integration, and AI-enhanced QA workflows that accelerate delivery while preserving rigorous engineering judgment.

Leadership focus: building high-performing QA teams, defining quality governance and KPIs, and implementing automation strategies that improve release confidence at scale.

25+ Years in Testing

20+ Years in Automation

Selenium Expert Since 2004

AI-Enhanced QA

Selected Tools: Selenium, Cypress, Playwright, GitHub Actions, CircleCI, Jenkins, JMeter, LoadRunner, k6, ChatGPT, GitHub Copilot, Cursor

## EDUCATION

### Academic background

- San Diego State University

## LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS

### Credentials

- ISTQB Advanced Level Test Automation Engineer (CTAL-TAE), Jun 2020
- ISTQB Foundation Level Agile Tester (CTFL-AT), Feb 2016
- ISTQB Certified Tester, Foundation Level (CTFL), Jan 2016

## SKILLS

### Core skills

- Quality engineering leadership
- Test automation architecture
- Selenium, Cypress, Playwright
- API and database testing
- Performance testing
- CI/CD quality gates
- AI-enhanced QA workflows
- Mentoring and enablement

## HONORS AND AWARDS

### Recognition

## EXPERIENCE

### Professional summary

Current public profile listed at KUBRA, with work spanning quality engineering, automation, and delivery support.

25+ years across functional testing, automation, performance testing, and quality leadership, with recommendations emphasizing adaptability, independent delivery, and strong engineering judgment.

## LEADERSHIP AND STRATEGIC IMPACT

### Scope of leadership

- Built, led, and strengthened QA practices with strong product ownership and measurable quality outcomes
- Strategic leadership across the SDLC in Agile and DevOps environments
- Automation strategy that supports faster delivery without lowering quality standards
- Quality governance, metrics, KPIs, and executive-facing reporting

## AUTOMATION EXPERTISE AND INNOVATION

### Automation depth

- 20+ years of automation specialization from Selenium frameworks to AI-enhanced testing workflows
- Selenium expertise since 2004, including framework development, Grid architecture, and web/API testing
- Modern automation delivery with Cypress and Playwright across browser and API-focused scenarios
- Practical AI use with ChatGPT, GitHub Copilot, and Cursor while keeping judgment human-led

## TECHNICAL ARCHITECTURE AND DELIVERY

- Exceptional Performance Award, KUBRA, Dec 2018
- "Above and Beyond the Call of Duty" award, Blackboard, Aug 2009

## Engineering systems

- End-to-end automation strategy, framework design, implementation, and reporting
- CI/CD integration across GitHub Actions, CircleCI, and Jenkins
- Full-stack testing across APIs, databases, and integrated application workflows
- Performance testing with LoadRunner, JMeter, and k6

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### What colleagues emphasize

- Adaptable across multiple UI, API, and performance frameworks
- Strong at building quality practices where little structure existed before
- Independent in delivery, responsive in execution, and effective as a mentor

## COURSES

### Selected relevant coursework

- Cursor AI For Cypress Testing
- Cursor: Advanced Training
- Automated Web Testing with JavaScript and Playwright
- Write Cypress Tests Using GitHub Copilot
- Integrating Automated Testing into DevOps
- Design Selenium Test Framework from Scratch - Architect Level
- Master JMeter (Performance, Load, and API Testing)