Oscar Juarez

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Professional Summary

Results-driven **Senior Quality Engineer / SDET** with 15+ years of experience architecting scalable test automation frameworks, driving shift-left quality strategies, and embedding directly with product and development teams across complex web and microservice architectures. Proven track record at **Findhelp** designing automated regression suites, optimizing CI/CD delivery pipelines, and championing quality best practices. Strong practical experience in Python (PyTest, Robot Framework), Playwright, API test automation, and Linux/GCP ecosystem debugging. Recognized for reducing defect turnaround time, elevating test coverage across critical user paths, and mentoring engineers to build a sustainable, quality first engineering culture.

Technical & Core Skills

- **Test Automation & Frameworks:** Python, PyTest, Robot Framework, Playwright, TypeScript, Selenium, Keyword-Driven Frameworks, Page Object Model (POM).
- **API & Backend Testing:** RESTful APIs, Microservices Architecture, Contract Testing, Postman, REST Assured, Backend Integration & Verification.
- **CI/CD & DevOps Integration:** GitHub Actions, GitLab CI, Jenkins, Docker, Linux System Administration, Shell Scripting.
- **Observability & Databases:** SQL, BigQuery, MongoDB, Log Tracing & Analysis (Elasticsearch/Kibana), System Root Cause Analysis.
- **Quality Leadership & Strategy:** Shift-Left QA, Risk-Based Test Planning, Agile Quality Coaching, Production Telemetry, Cross-Functional Collaboration.

Professional Experience

Career Break | Austin, TX
Planned Sabbatical & Independent Technical Projects | *2023 – Present*

- **Intentional Career Pause:** Took planned, personal leave following consecutive years of senior technical engineering roles.
- **Continuous Skill Refinement:** Maintained hands-on proficiency in modern test automation stacks (**Python, PyTest, Robot Framework, Playwright**), building proof-of-concept automated test suites, exploring open-source tools, and managing independent software projects.

Findhelp | Austin, TX
Senior QA Engineer / SDET – Test Infrastructure | *2022 – 2023*

- **Architected & Maintained Scalable Automation Frameworks:** Designed and maintained robust UI and API test automation frameworks using **Python, PyTest, and Robot Framework**, leveraging Page Object Model (POM) and keyword-driven design to ensure test maintainability and efficiency.

- **CI/CD Pipeline Integration:** Integrated automated regression suites directly into GitHub Actions / Jenkins pipelines, reducing feedback loops for developers and boosting deployment confidence by ~95%.

- **Shift-Left & Quality Coaching:** Partnered upstream with Product, Architecture, and Engineering during early design phases to identify architectural risk, optimize testability, and advocate for quality before code execution.

- **API & Microservice Validation:** Spearheaded comprehensive API contract and backend integration testing across distributed web services, ensuring data integrity and transactional consistency across complex microservices.

- **System Observability & Root Cause Analysis:** Utilized system-level log tracing (Elasticsearch/Kibana), Linux debugging tools, and AI-assisted analysis to rapidly isolate and resolve root causes of complex system defects.

- **Cross-Squad Quality Advocacy:** Authored comprehensive technical documentation, test guidelines, and automation standards, empowering junior/mid-level engineers to co-own quality best practices.

QA Engineer II | *2018 – 2022*

- **Core Workflow Automation:** Built and scaled end-to-end automated test suites for core user journeys and backend microservices, growing coverage to **400+ critical business path tests**.

- **Database Integrity Verification:** Conducted complex SQL and BigQuery data validations to verify transactional integrity, pipeline performance, and data sync stability across distributed stores.

- **Performance & Reliability Optimization:** Collaborated closely with software developers to identify performance bottlenecks, reduce test flakiness, and eliminate high-impact production regressions.

Unizin | Austin, TX

QA Engineer I | *2016 – 2018*

- **Engineered end-to-end automated test suites** using Python, Selenium, and Shell scripting, seamlessly integrating them into Jenkins CI/CD pipelines to establish automated quality gates.
- **Accelerated release cycles** by providing instant deployment feedback loops, significantly reducing manual regression testing overhead.
- **Executed structured exploratory testing** and deep root-cause analysis across distributed web services to intercept defects early and drive down sprint-over-sprint regression rates.

Modifly | Austin, TX
QA Analyst | *2015 – 2016*

- Designed and executed automated API load and performance test suites using Postman and LoadRunner to validate scalability, throughput, and endpoint reliability for General Motors' OnStar API architecture.

AgileAssets | Austin, TX
QA Analyst II | *2012 – 2015*

- Authored and executed comprehensive end-to-end test suites for flagship enterprise modules, validating complex business logic, system configurations, and data integrations prior to major client deployments.

General Dynamics | Austin, TX
Test Engineer I / II | *2007 – 2012*

- Performed system-level security compliance and multi-level security (MLS) validation on the D.O.D. Trusted Network Environment (TNE) across Trusted Solaris, PitBull, and Linux platforms; cut test infrastructure deployment times in half with automated PXE server provisioning. (Held Secret Clearance)

ClearCube Technology | Austin, TX
IT Admin / Systems Engineer / Sales Engineer / QA Engineer | *Early 2000 – 2007*

- Administered Linux & Windows server infrastructure. Executed hardware & software QA test suites for flagship blade desktop computing platforms and served as primary Tier 3 engineering escalation lead for enterprise client deployments.