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*Pan-Canadian Projectathon 2025*

*Vendor Playbook*

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## Introduction

This document serves as a comprehensive playbook outlining the various stages of the Projectathon and detailing the tasks expected from each vendor at every phase of the event. It provides an in-depth overview of the process, specifying responsibilities and requirements for each phase to ensure organized and effective participation.

Additionally, the playbook includes a section dedicated to frequently asked questions from participants of Projectathons or Connectathons. This section aims to address common queries and provide helpful answers to assist vendors in navigating the different stages of the event.

## Basic concepts

### Difference between Connectathons and Projectathons

Connectathon	Projectathon
An annual test event organized by IHE to test conformance to IHE profiles that allow interoperability in the Healthcare ecosystem	Testing event organized by an entity, organization or country to test interoperability in healthcare or other fields, specifically related to the organizer.
Scope of testing may cover the entire IHE domain/profile, but is highly dependent on the profiles registered by participants. Connectathons focus solely on IHE profiles.	Projectathons are free to test both IHE profiles and non-IHE profiles. Additionally, projectathons may include customized IHE profiles to address local needs (e.g. Canadian profiles such as CA:FeX and CA:Sec).  Generally, projectathons have a smaller test scope than connectathons.

## Testing Platform

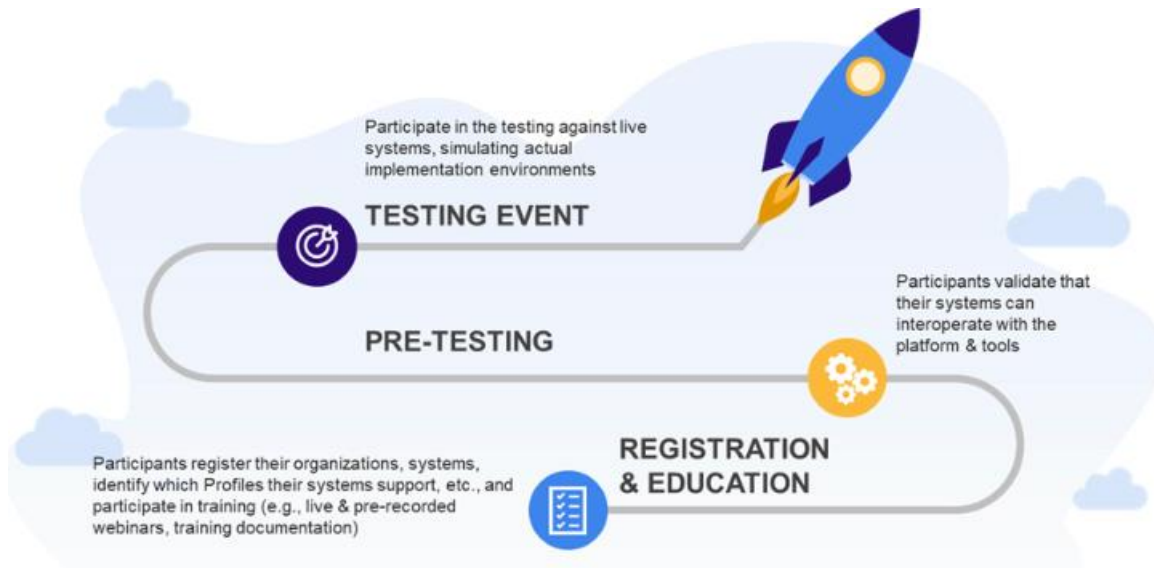
Testing for Connectathons and Projectathons make use of the IHE Gazelle testing platform. The platform allows vendors to test and prove that their products align with the published specifications. This platform has been used to support quality testing in IHE Connectathons for over 15 years worldwide.

Gazelle is a test bed aimed at testing the interoperability of eHealth information systems. It is developed by IHE-Europe with the support of several other IHE countries (USA, Japan, Korea, and Australia).

## Main roles in the Projectathon

- **The participants** (Vendors) register for the projectathon event and select the profiles they wish to test. They undertake preparations to get ready for the event and conduct peer-to-peer and no peer tests to assess their implementation with systems from other participants.
- **The Monitors** support the participants during the execution of the tests during the event. They grade the tests based on objective evidence and criteria. If needed, they proceed to the necessary clarifications of the specifications, the descriptions of the tests or the tools. Tests are evaluated with the Gazelle platform test management tool and may be graded as verified, partially verified or failed.
- **Technical support** ensures that everything is operational, preparing the testing platform, tooling and environment, and addressing any potential issues, ensuring that everything is operational from a technical perspective.

## Participation Lifecycle : Expectations for the Preparatory Phase and Event



### Registration & Education

Before the event, vendors will participate in a Registration Webinar. This webinar will guide vendors on how to register their organization, their system, and the users from their organization who will perform the tests during the event.

The following information will be requested from participants in Gazelle during the registration:

- Create user account(s) in Gazelle
- Create the organization
- Add contact persons in your organization
- Register for the profiles/actors/options that you will test

**For a detailed description of the Registration process, please review this [Manual](#).**

### Pre-testing phase: Pre-projectathon tests and Connectivity Tests

It is recommended to perform preparatory testing to ensure test systems are ready ahead of the Projectathon.

In previous pan-Canadian Projectathon events, preparatory and connectivity tests have proven invaluable for understanding the context and identifying issues before the event. Vendors who conducted more preparatory tests generally performed more efficiently during the actual event.

#### Pre-projectathon tests

Once the registration is complete, vendors will wait for the pre-Projectathon testing period to open, at which point they can start the preparatory tests in Gazelle. This stage is not mandatory but is highly recommended to ensure readiness before the event.

Before this stage, a webinar will be held by the Gazelle Test Session Manager to explain the procedure for executing operational tests and to introduce the tools (simulators and validators) to be used.

The preparatory tests will not be graded. Test results (success/failure) will be displayed immediately by the tool. Participants are encouraged to upload evidence of their preparatory tests (such as logs and screenshots) into Gazelle

Test Management. The test session manager will conduct random checks on the uploaded results to verify that the tests have been completed and participants are prepared for the Projectathon.

Given the positive correlation between preparatory test results and Projectathon performance, we strongly encourage all teams to complete as many preparatory test cases as possible, including both mandatory and optional tests. Performing optional tests is also recommended for thorough preparation.

### Connectivity testing phase

The Connectivity Test is mandatory for all onsite, online, and hybrid participants operating a System Under Test (SUT). This requirement ensures that all SUTs are accessible online and capable of initiating and receiving connections with other SUTs.

The primary objective of the Connectivity Test is to identify and resolve any potential network issues prior to the actual Projectathon. This includes verifying firewall configurations, DNS registration, and port access rights to ensure seamless communication between nodes and machines from different participants during the event.

SUTs cannot be limited to a local computer at the event location because the network will have restricted access, blocking most or all incoming connections. SUTs are required to be accessible over the internet and also communicate with each other.

**For a detailed description of the Connectivity testing process, please see the following link:**

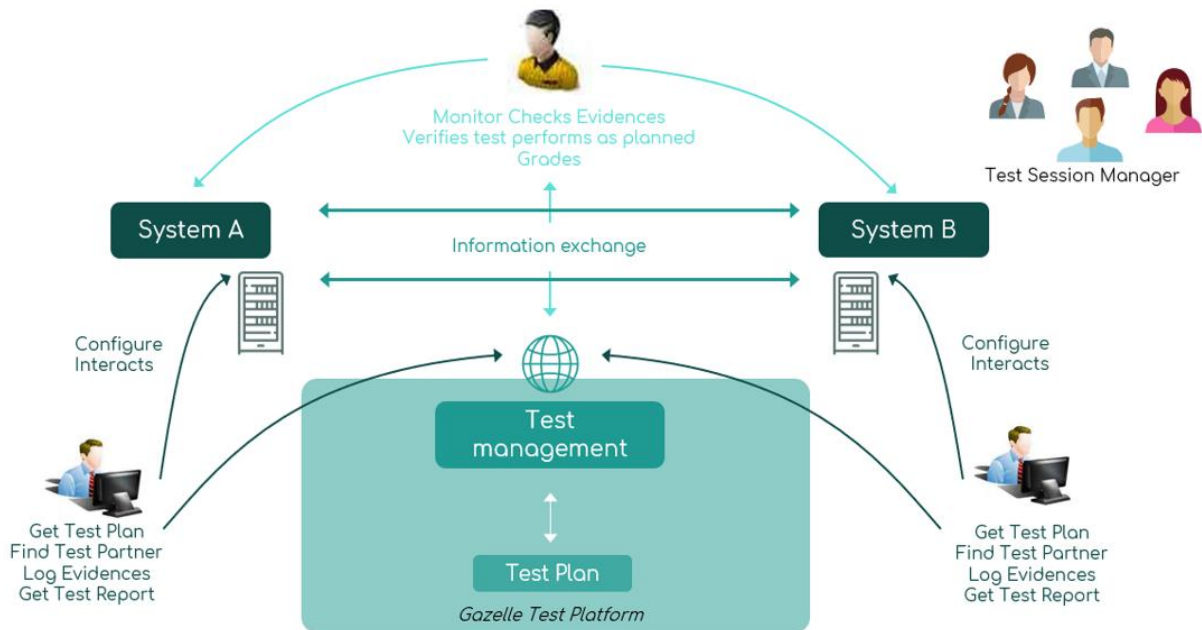
<https://gitlab.inria.fr/gazelle/specific-tools/connectivity-test-scripts>

### Projectathon Testing Event – What to Expect During the Event

After the preparatory stages (pre-Projectathon and Connectivity), participants will proceed to the next phase of the event: the Projectathon testing.

### No-peer tests

On the first day of the event, vendors prepare test data and conduct no-peer tests. For the remainder of the event, they will focus on conducting peer-to-peer tests.



1. Participant A, with System A, and Participant B, with System B, are both involved in Projectation.
2. Using Gazelle, Participant A identifies Participant B as a potential test partner for an interoperability test. Participant A approaches Participant B, and they agree on a time to perform the interoperability test or start testing immediately. They record the test in Gazelle.
3. A Monitor, alerted by Gazelle that a test needs to be reviewed, claims the test and examines it. The Monitor ensures the test is conducted correctly, verifying the results with the help of log files and validators. If any proofs are missing, the monitor requests additional information from the participants.
4. If the test fails and Participant A discovers that the issue originated from their system, they can fix the problem immediately and retake the test. Depending on the severity of the issue and the time required to address it, subsequent tests may need to be rescheduled. In such cases, participants can set the test status to "Paused" and resume testing later when ready.

## Post Event & Report

After the event, the Test Session Manager will grade each system based on the information provided by the Monitor. This grade will determine whether the implementation of an actor is considered successful.

A private report will be sent to each organization that will detail all tests conducted for each actor/profile within the organization. It will include the status of each test as graded by the Monitor, as well as the overall status provided by the Test Session Manager.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What are the requirements for the System Under Test (SUT) operator(s)?

- Each System Under Test (SUT) is generally expected to have at least two operators. If needed, you may send multiple teams, especially if your organization is registering to test multiple profiles, actors or has complex tests to execute.

- SUT operators should be knowledgeable about the SUT and the features being tested. They should be able to address issues, recompile, and retest as needed. Therefore, having the ability to modify the code is recommended.
- SUT Operators should also know how to access and share the system’s logs for evidence during testing. Alternatively, they can be assisted by other technical team members. Ideally, at least one technical team member or developer should be available to provide technical support or fix bugs related to your SUT.
- All Systems Under Test must be accessible online and capable of making and receiving connections with other SUTs.

**What is the estimated time required for each activity in the different phases of the Projectathon ?**

Registration	Approximately one person-day (For reference only) which includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attending the Projectathon registration Webinar.</li> <li>• Defining the features to be tested - Registration in Gazelle.</li> <li>• Travel and accommodation booking (to be done by each team separately)</li> </ul>
Preparatory Testing	Preparatory Tests take approximately 10 person-days*. It highly depends on the test features and the complexity of the System Under Test. Gazelle is open for Preparatory Test generally for one month. You can perform the Preparatory Test anytime during this period. Connectivity Test (for onsite/online/hybrid participants a that are operating a System Under Test) take approximately 1 person-day*. Typically, Gazelle is open for Connectivity Test for 2 weeks. You can perform the Connectivity Test anytime during this period.
Event	Projectathon events (three person-days*)  Onsite participant: Add minimum one person-day* for the travel (round-trip), hotel check-in/checkout.

**What materials should I prepare for the Projectathon event ?**

- A laptop and any necessary devices are required for:
  - Operating and debugging the System Under Test (SUT).
  - Communicating with your remote team and other remote participants.
- All Systems Under Test (SUTs) must be accessible online and capable of making and receiving connections with other SUTs.
- An international power adapter is needed unless your equipment is compatible with standard Canadian power sockets.
- A headset with a microphone is recommended for online communication.