



## COMPARISON

# Perforce Helix ALM vs. MicroFocus ALM/Quality Center

While ALM/Quality Center was once considered a best-in-class solution, MicroFocus is no longer devoting resources to the development of the product. As DevOps teams become more sophisticated, they are outgrowing the limited functionality and support available through ALM/Quality Center, forcing them to look for alternatives if they want to stay lean and fast.

Helix ALM is a market leader for requirements management, known for its high configurability and end-to-end traceability — and continues to evolve to fit the modern DevOps team.

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## Why Make the Switch to Helix ALM?

ALM/Quality Center is a legacy HP product that is no longer competitive against other lifecycle management tools, especially those that support Agile or hybrid methodologies. As the DevOps tech stack continues to grow, ALM/Quality Center's inability to integrate with new tools is becoming more apparent and restraining. In the absence of any new or future functionality, or quality product support, ROI on this solution has diminished.

Helix ALM is an excellent alternative to ALM/Quality Center, especially for product and development teams who prioritize managing requirements, but also need test management and test automation support. It provides comparable functionality to maintain a governed lifecycle management process, but with the added ability to configure workflows, integrate with popular dev tools, and support Agile processes.

Transitioning to Helix ALM is seamless with structured, hassle-free data migration from ALM/Quality Center. There are minimal disruptions to work, and no loss of data. Plus, licenses are a fraction of the cost.

CAPABILITY	ALM/QUALITY CENTER	HELIX ALM
<p><b>TEST MANAGEMENT</b></p>	<p>ALM/Quality Center cannot support test automation. Integrations are restricted to applications within the HP Software Suite (UFT, BSM etc.)</p>	<p>Helix ALM is able to manage test cases regardless of the type of testing performed and application used.</p>
<p><b>WORKFLOW COMPATIBILITY</b></p>	<p>Users are required to adapt to the lifecycle management structure within MicroFocus, which was built for Waterfall teams.</p>	<p>High configurability enables teams to keep their known workflows, including hybrid or Agile. Separate teams in the lifecycle can also customize their individual workflows.</p>
<p><b>OPEN AND INTEGRATED</b></p>	<p>The use of enterprise tools is generally restricted to the HP Software Suite as ALM/Quality Center does not fully communicate with third-party tools.</p>	<p>Helix ALM supports leading tools in market for Agile, test automation, and CI/CD. It is also fully “RESTful” (REST API.)</p>
<p><b>ENTERPRISE-READY</b></p>	<p>ALM/Quality Center offers limited support for modern enterprise tools. Security and authentication functionality is restricted to Windows and IE and does not fully support REST API.</p>	<p>Perforce serves some of the world’s largest and most regulated enterprises, keeping current with market needs so customers can continue to release products faster with confidence and high quality.</p>
<p><b>ONBOARDING AND USABILITY</b></p>	<p>Onboarding requires professional services customization and an extended timeline. Data import and export tends to be clunky, and the Operational Data Store is limited.</p>	<p>Helix ALM provides project templates, pre-configured reports/dashboards, and is designed to allow immediate onboarding with minimal disruption. Data can be easily migrated from ALM/Quality Center into Helix ALM for a seamless transition.</p>
<p><b>TRACEABILITY</b></p>	<p>ALM/Quality Center does have good traceability as long as you’re working in other HP tools.</p>	<p>Helix ALM integrates with many tools, and provides traceability across the board regardless of tools used in the stack.</p>

## Test Management

### ALM/QUALITY CENTER

- Never advanced to support the way modern teams work.
- Only supports the HP legacy testing suite.
- Not compatible with test automation tools used in DevOps today

### HELIX ALM

- Supports all testing types running in the DevOps environment, including tests running through the CI/CD pipeline using Jenkins.
- Optimize testing and ensure quality long-term regardless of test type.

#### *Why Should I Care?*

Without the ability to advance beyond the limitations of ALM/Quality Center, DevOps cannot adopt new processes and tools to promote overall delivery. This restricts their capacity to evolve in their spaces, and inhibits their ability to release quality products quickly.

## Traceability

### ALM/QUALITY CENTER

- Only enables traceability within the HP suite.
- Supports for manual testing only.
- Lack of integrations with automated testing tools.

### HELIX ALM

- Integrates with the broad spectrum of development tools.
- Captures everything that goes into the workflow to provide true end-to-end traceability.
- Flexible enough to fit any workflow.
- Comprehensive audit reporting and compliance management.

#### *Why Should I Care?*

Modern product development methodologies use a combination of manual and automated testing across different projects and areas. ALM/Quality Center will never keep up with development to achieve the end-to-end traceability necessary not only for compliance, but comprehensive risk and quality management.

## Workflow Compatibility

### ALM/QUALITY CENTER

- Built in a Waterfall environment, and it remains a Waterfall tool.
- Cannot adopt to Agile workflows.
- New users forced to work within the preset structure.
- Additional customization could disable needed functionality and requires support.

### HELIX ALM

- Customizability is at the core of Helix ALM, from dashboards to settings.
- Users can continue to work in the way it makes sense for them with support for hybrid Agile workflows.
- Separate teams can choose their own workflows yet store and share information across development.
- Integrates with popular tools like Jira.

#### *Why Should I Care?*

Even regulated industries have adopted at least some Agility in their development methodology. Restricting this is not only a major setback but also severely limiting to the future of development. In addition, there is greater team buy-in to adopting a new tool, and a smaller learning curve when teams can continue working in the tools they know and within the workflows that are efficient for them.

## Conclusion

You don't need to be stuck paying an outrageous price for an outdated tool that restricts your ability to modernize your development. For a fraction of the price, Helix ALM is intuitive, easy to onboard, easy to use, and integrates with tools you're already using. Its migration capabilities will make the transition easy, so you can painlessly increase efficiency, visibility, and cross-team collaboration. Watch the [on-demand demo](#) to see what Helix ALM can do for your teams.

Have more questions about how Helix ALM compares to ALM/Quality Center? We'd love to help! Connect with our team to learn more.

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