

How to Be a Software Testing Rockstar

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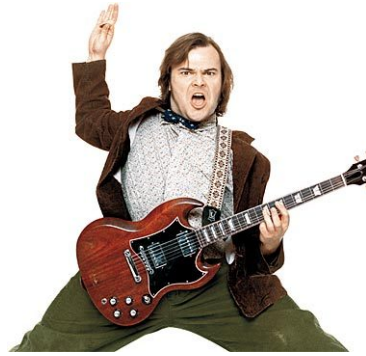
What a Lineup!



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Et30cfSj36g>

What This Presentation is About

- Competency
- Talent
- Endurance
- Resiliency
- Branding
- Admiration



A Little Background

- How I first discovered this connection...



About Rock Stars...

They are admired



They have a band



About Rock Stars...

Some are smart, others not so much



Some are very entrepreneurial



About Rock Stars...

Some are talented, others not so much



Some endure, some don't

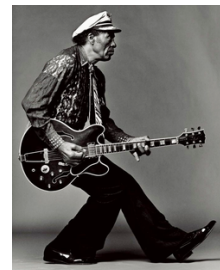


Some are likeable, others aren't



About Rock Stars...

They each have a unique sound



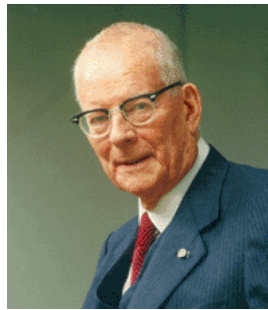
They are at the top of their game



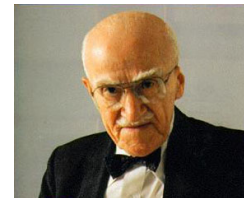
Examples of Quality Rock Stars



Phillip Crosby



W. Edwards Deming



Joseph Juran

Examples of Software Quality Rock Stars



William E. Perry



Watts Humphrey



Capers Jones



Ed Yourdon

Examples of Software Testing Rock Stars



Boris Beizer



Julie Gardner



Rex Black



James Bach



Ed Kit



Dorothy Graham



Linda Hayes

Why be a QA & Testing Rock Star?

- It adds value to your career.
- It adds to our profession.
- It shows value to those we serve.
 - Employers
 - Customers
- It helps us survive over the long run.



An Interesting Story About a Rocker that Became a Tester, then a Rock Star Tester



Michael Larsen
<http://www.mkltesthead.com>

How to Get There

- #1 – Become the best at what you do (your talent).
 - Be known for doing excellent work.
- #2 – Work on a specialty.
 - Security, performance, usability testing
- #3 – Define your brand (your unique sound)
 - What makes you different from others?
 - What value do you bring to the table?
- #4 – Practice!

#5 – Jam with Others

- Collaborate with others in our profession.



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9fG-St6fVI>

#6 – Get discovered

- Social media is a great way to do this – blogs, Twitter
- Books & articles
- Speak at conferences

#7 – Don't Try to Steal the Show



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6DVbt5W-DNc>

Three Other Things

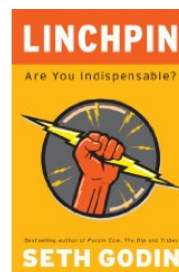
#8 – Reinvent yourself
when needed

- Never stop learning

#9 – Give back

#10 – Not everyone will like
your music.

- Play for the people who
like what you do.



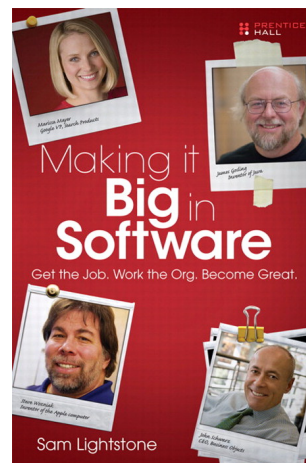
And...

- It's more than just being able to find bugs!
- It's being able to:
 - Add value
 - Be a contributing part of a team
 - Be helpful to others



Another Resource

- “Making it Big in Software” by Sam Lightstone
- Podcast at riceconsulting.com



Confidence *and* Humility



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DJVuxpYeKqM>

