“Respect is rapidly growing for the art of software testing in technology organizations across the country. Long the neglected stepchild of software engineering, testing as a discipline is seen as more and more important for highly competitive companies, especially companies such as Guidant, where quality is a number one concern. Another point I would like to make is that often the testing department becomes the entry point and training ground for new engineers. They will work in test for a few years to become acculturated in their new company before being transferred to a development or research group. Obviously an new engineer's prospects are enhanced for hire into testing if they have some academic background in it. As these programs become more common at universities, recruiters more and more expect to see some interest in that area from their prospective hires.” **Marc Loos**, Principal Engineer, Guidant Corporation.

“It’s all about quality. A course in software testing will teach a CS major how to both identify defects in software and design high quality software. The mastery and successful application of these two skills will enable one to have a very successful career in software development and engineering in general. Companies and research institutions that provide software products and services rely on testing and design to maintain and increase the quality of their software.” **Chris Benes**, Shure Inc.

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