

A Practical Example

A governance platform can help software developers and IT managers understand the policies, dependencies, and services used within an application. By exposing service dependencies, the platform helps teams evaluate service reliability and identify opportunities to build redundancy into the application when an upstream service becomes unavailable.

This type of knowledge can also be shared informally between developers. For example, one developer may recommend a U.S. Postal Service ZIP Code lookup service for a product registration page, allowing users to enter their ZIP code and automatically populate the city and state fields. The developer may also mention that the service has been observed to return errors on weekends.

This developer-to-developer exchange provides several pieces of useful information:

1. The existence and location of the ZIP Code lookup service.
2. The service's reliability varies depending on the time of use.
3. The service behaves according to its published schema.

An ideal governance platform provides this information in a centralized and accessible way. For example, a service catalog can display available services and their metadata, including their current availability status.

Integration with the Appvance runtime provides additional insight into service functionality, reliability, and quality. In a service-oriented environment, Appvance can use native protocols to test composite applications and evaluate their functionality, scalability, performance, and availability.

Appvance IQ can also leverage existing unit and functional tests to perform service-level functional, scalability, performance, and monitoring tests. Because Appvance is a distributed test automation platform, tests can run on remote TestNodes across multiple networks and machines.

These tests can provide valuable data for governance and monitoring systems, including:

1. **Availability Feed** — Provides data for evaluating Service Level Agreement (SLA) compliance.
2. **Functionality Feed** — Helps identify service regressions and functional issues.
3. **Reliability Feed** — Provides data for measuring service reliability over time.

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If you have any feedback on this topic, please contact us at documentation@appvance.ai.

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