

Chris Melski

Senior Test Manager | SDET | QA Lead

c_melski@yahoo.com | [linkedin.com/in/chrismelski](https://www.linkedin.com/in/chrismelski) | github.com/cmelski | [Portfolio](#)

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Test Manager and SDET with 20+ years in FX trading, telecom, and eCommerce. I build automation frameworks from scratch, lead distributed QA teams across multiple time zones, and bridge the gap between business and technology. At Barclays I cut regression run time by ~80% by reworking the test suite around risk, removing noise and focusing coverage where it actually mattered. I combine a strong hands-on technical foundation with strategic test leadership ensuring quality governance, automation efficiency, and business alignment from requirements through production release.

CORE SKILLS

Test Management	Test Strategy · QA Governance · SIT/UAT · Defect Triage · Risk-Based Coverage · KPI Reporting · Stakeholder Management
Automation	Python (pytest, unittest) · Playwright · Cypress · Selenium · BDD/Cucumber · REST API · FIX Protocol · CI/CD · GitHub Actions · Jenkins · Azure DevOps
Languages	Python · JavaScript · Java · SQL · VBA · Bash
Tooling	JIRA / Xray · Postman · Allure · Pycharm · VS Code · MySQL · PostgreSQL · Oracle · Pandas · NumPy · GitHub Copilot
Domains	FX e-Trading · Algorithmic Trading · eCommerce · Billing · POS · Inventory Systems
Business Analysis	Requirements Analysis · User Story Mapping · Test Traceability · UAT Coordination · Root Cause Analysis

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Test Manager | SDET Lead | Barclays, Singapore

2007 – 2024

End-to-end QA ownership of BARX FX e-Trading - spot, forwards, swaps, and NDFs - across pricing, execution, STP, and post-trade flows. Led QA teams in Singapore, Pune, Prague, and London.

- **Regression Efficiency:** Rebuilt the regression suite around risk tiers (high/medium/low impact) and eliminated low-value tests. Result: regression execution time dropped ~80%, releasing engineer capacity for faster release cycles.
- **Automation Framework:** Built Python/Playwright automation from the ground up and integrated it into CI/CD pipelines. Covered API, database, and UI layers across pricing engines, execution services, and downstream booking - moving the team from manual-heavy to automation-first.
- **Regulatory Testing:** Managed SIT and UAT delivery for MiFID II, Dodd-Frank, and trade reporting changes. Owned requirements traceability from business sign-off through to production release, with full audit documentation for compliance and market risk.
- **Production Incidents:** Ran root cause analysis on production incidents — pricing discrepancies, execution failures, booking breaks. Each RCA fed directly back into test coverage to prevent recurrence.
- **BDD / Business Alignment:** Built BDD test specs (Cucumber) mapped directly to FX user stories, giving traders and developers a shared language for what was being tested and why.
- **Reporting:** Used JIRA/Xray to track regression coverage, execution time, and defect leakage KPIs. Reported weekly to trading, sales, compliance, and technology stakeholders.
- **Team Leadership:** Mentored junior QA engineers and SDETs across four locations, embedding automation-first practices and consistent standards into daily sprint delivery.

QA Consultant (Independent) | [Freelance](#)

2024 – Present

Building AI-driven and production-grade QA tools and test automation frameworks.

- AI-Driven Playwright Framework: Python/Playwright with YAML-driven test specs, strict Page Object Model, and AI-assisted test scenario generation - reduces test authoring time significantly for new features.
- Self-Healing Selector Framework: GPT-powered fallback locator strategy (CSS → XPath → data-testid) that auto-recovers broken selectors after UI changes. Cuts flaky test maintenance down to near-zero.
- AI Log Analyzer: Classifies pytest failure logs using AI - outputs error categories, confidence scores, and stack traces. Eliminates manual log triage after large regression runs.
- Automated JIRA Defect Integration: pytest hooks that auto-create or link JIRA defects on test failure, attaching screenshots and Allure logs - removes duplicate defect-logging effort.
- Config-Driven API Health Checker: Multi-environment API monitor with strict config validation, structured logging, and clean error handling. Built for daily ops use.
- Estate Management Web App: Full-stack Flask/PostgreSQL application with pytest API tests and Playwright UI tests covering end-to-end data flows.

Test Lead | [Gen-i, Wellington, NZ](#)

2006 – 2007

- Defined test strategy and managed requirements validation for a helpdesk software implementation. Ran UAT sessions and owned business sign-off.

Test Engineer | [Bell, Toronto, Canada](#)

2004 – 2006

- Supported a billing system migration - combined test execution with requirements traceability and built reusable manual and automated regression assets.

Business Analyst | [ReserveAmerica, Mississauga, Canada](#)

2003

- Gathered requirements and produced functional specs for eCommerce POS and ticketing systems. Supported testing through UAT.

Java Developer | QA Analyst | [SIVCO Inc, Calgary, Canada](#)

2002 – 2003

- Built Java modules for an inventory tracking system and introduced formal QA processes into SDLC.

EDUCATION

- Post Graduate Programming Diploma (Honours) - ITI, Toronto, Canada (2001)
- Bachelor of Business Administration - Marketing (Honours) - Cape Breton University, Canada (1998)

RECENT TRAINING & CERTIFICATIONS

- Azure DevOps: Build CI/CD Release Pipelines (Feb 2026)
- Cypress - Modern Automation Testing + Frameworks (Sep 2025)
- Playwright Python Automation Testing (Jun 2025)
- API Testing with Python and PyTest (Jan 2025)
- PCEP - Certified Python Programmer (Oct 2024)
- 100 Days of Code: Python Pro Bootcamp (Jun 2024)
- Cucumber BDD with Java - Masterclass Selenium Framework (Apr 2024)