

NAME

ATF - introduction to the Automated Testing Framework

DESCRIPTION

The Automated Testing Framework (**ATF**) is a *collection of libraries* to implement test programs in a variety of languages. These libraries all offer similar functionality and any test program written with them exposes a consistent user interface.

Test programs using the **ATF** libraries rely on a separate runtime engine to execute them in a deterministic fashion. The runtime engine isolates the test programs from the rest of the system and ensures some common side-effects are cleaned up. The runtime engine is also responsible for gathering the results of all tests and composing reports. The current runtime of choice is Kyua, described in [kyua\(1\)](#).

If your operating systems distributes **ATF**, it should also provide an introductory [tests\(7\)](#) manual page. You are encouraged to read it now.

The rest of this manual page serves as a cross-reference to all the other documentation shipped with **ATF**.

Language bindings

atf-c(3)	C programming interface.
atf-c++(3)	C++ programming interface.
atf-sh(3)	sh(1) programming interface.

Miscellaneous pages

atf-test-case(4)	Generic description of test cases, independent of the language they are implemented in.
atf-test-program(1)	Common interface provided by the test programs written using the ATF libraries.

SEE ALSO

[kyua\(1\)](#), [tests\(7\)](#)

HISTORY

ATF started as a Google Summer of Code 2007 project mentored by The NetBSD Foundation. Its original goal was to provide a testing framework for the NetBSD operating system, but it grew as an

independent project because the framework itself did not need to be tied to a specific operating system.

Originally, **ATF** shipped the collection of libraries described in this manual page as well as a runtime engine. The runtime engine has since been replaced by Kyua and the old tools were removed in **0.20**, which shipped in early 2014.

As of late 2014, both FreeBSD and NetBSD ship **ATF** in their base systems and provide extensive test suites based on it.

For more details on historical changes, refer to:

/usr/share/doc/atf/NEWS

AUTHORS

For more details on the people that made **ATF** possible, refer to:

/usr/share/doc/atf/AUTHORS