

# AI at Work: Accelerating Innovation at Graebel

How AI coding assistants help developers move faster, without sacrificing quality.

Graebel's Software Project Team ran a structured multi-tool pilot and standardized on GitHub Copilot Enterprise, gaining approximately three hours per story/bug, stronger unit test coverage and more reliable documentation.

## Project overview

Following a focused internal pilot of AI coding assistants, developers tested multiple tools in their daily work, measuring outcomes across unit testing, documentation quality and turnaround time. The goal was to increase efficiency in completing story/bug fixes while minimizing new defects. Based on consolidated metrics and cost analysis, the organization chose to move forward with a single enterprise solution.

## Methodology and strategic insights

To address the challenge and optimize the relocation experience, the project focused on the following key areas:

| Approach                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                      | Key Findings                                                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  <b>Pilot tool design</b>        | ● Distributed multiple AI tools to a developer cohort, embedded them in daily workflows, and captured worksheet-based feedback and unit-test timing. | Comparable, real-world usage data enabled a fair assessment of performance, cost and trade-offs.                            |
|  <b>Unit testing</b>            | ● Measured creation and execution time and observed coverage patterns.                                                                               | No net time loss for unit testing.<br>Broader coverage expected to harden features and curb bug generation.                 |
|  <b>Ecosystem &amp; coverage</b> | ● Assessed various candidate tools (i. e., ChatGPT/Cursor) for breadth and integration.                                                              | GitHub Copilot supported all Large Language Models (LLMs) in scope and more than alternatives, reducing switching overhead. |
|  <b>Codebase understanding</b> | ● Evaluated how well tools understood multi layer, contextual code.                                                                                  | Copilot understood the codebase across contexts and layers, accelerating solutioning.                                       |
|  <b>Adoption readiness</b>     | ● Included first-time and experienced AI users to gauge learning curve and value.                                                                    | Scalable adoption with minimal segmentation indicated value across seniority levels.                                        |
|  <b>Decision milestone</b>     | ● Tracked when feedback volume was sufficient to compute reliable time-gain metrics.                                                                 | Marked the consolidation point to standardize on a single enterprise tool.                                                  |

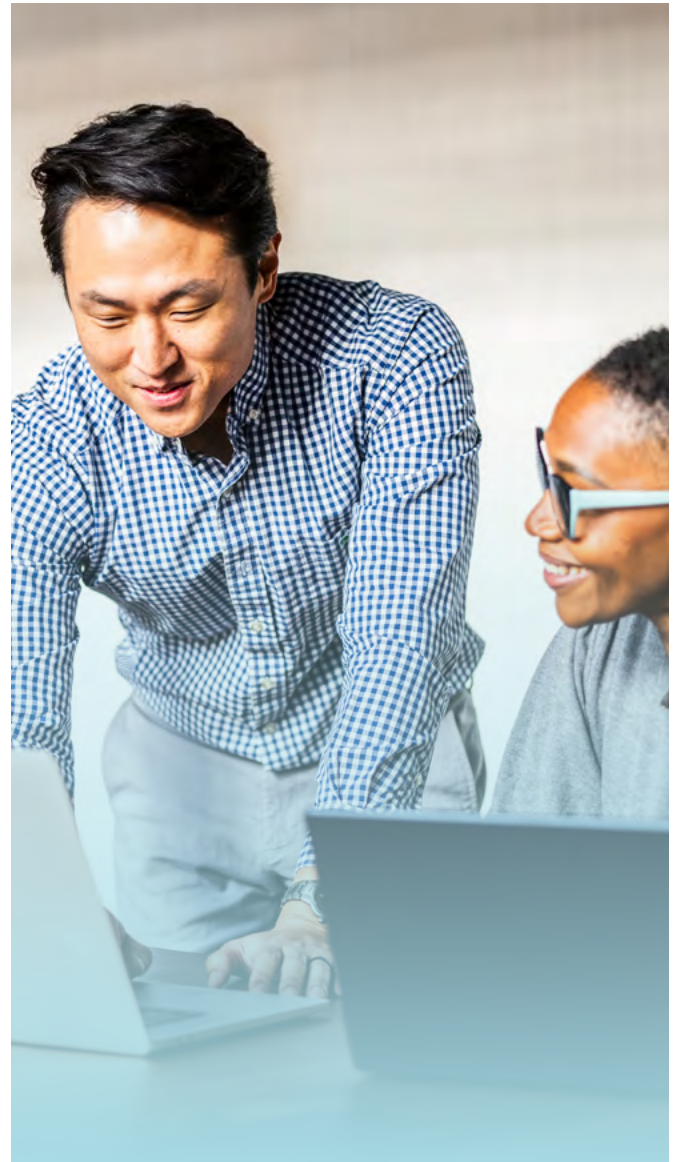
## Results

Early testing indicated that AI-assisted unit test writing saved developers approximately three hours while improving coverage by addressing edge cases that were typically harder to identify manually. This enhancement enabled developers to focus on creating robust solutions for features and bug fixing without sacrificing the time necessary for writing unit tests.

By year end, the AI-accelerated AppDev Delivery model is expected to show 15% or more productivity gains across IT Engineering and Quality Assurance, without compromising quality or governance.

## Strategic business impact

- ✓ **Accelerated product delivery:** The adoption of GitHub Copilot Enterprise enabled faster completion of development tasks, allowing Graebel to deliver new features and bug fixes to clients more rapidly.
- ✓ **Enhanced software quality:** Improved unit test coverage and AI-assisted code reviews contributed to more robust releases, reducing post-deployment issues and increasing client satisfaction.
- ✓ **Cost efficiency:** Standardizing on a single AI coding assistant reduced tool-switching overhead and licensing costs, streamlining budget allocation for technology investments.
- ✓ **Talent enablement:** Both new and experienced developers benefited from AI-powered assistance, supporting onboarding, upskilling, and retention efforts across the organization.
- ✓ **Future-ready standards:** The initiative paved the way for modernizing coding standards and best practices, positioning Graebel to leverage future AI advancements in software development.
- ✓ **Scalable innovation:** The pilot's success demonstrated Graebel's ability to scale AI adoption across teams, fostering a culture of continuous improvement and innovation.



## Conclusion: Engineered for impact. Designed to scale.

Measured time savings, improved unit test coverage, and enhanced documentation quality will increase Graebel's velocity in high quality deliverables for our software project. The initiative shows how disciplined AI adoption can elevate velocity and quality simultaneously, creating tangible, scalable value for product delivery and, ultimately, client outcomes.