There are several mechanisms to start test timely.

- Periodical: test starts every time period specified elapses since test creation or agent reboot.
- Template-based: uses Cron-like strategy.
- On demand: Run once or number of times specified by hand. For manual usage.

Periodical tests are most suitable for regular measurements. Since they use limited bandwidth, they do not affect running applications.
Template-based tests are used for regular measurements using stress-tests or other bandwidth-intensive tests affecting payload. You can specify night hours and weekend days in template to avoid harm to payload. Also, template-based tests could make simultaneous start of test group, which is used in diffserv/QoS tests.
On-demand tests are used by operators for irregular and spontaneous troubleshooting, etc. There is no storable history for these tests.