Antony Giles Cooke

139 Dearnford Avenue, Eastham, Wirral MERSEYSIDE CH62 6DX

Telephone

0151 328 0745 (Home) 07976 612701 (Mobile)

# Personal Information

Marital status: Married

Nationality: British

Date of Birth: 03 September 1965

# Summary of Skills

## GIS:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ArcGIS (5)** | **ArcMap (5)** | **GeoCortex (5)** | **Python (5)** |
| **DOS (5)** | **SQL (10)** | **Unix (5)** | **Oracle (5)** |
| **Batch Scheduling (10)** | **ArcFM (5)** | **LocatorHub (5)** | **Netbase Support (5)** |
| **FME (5)** | **Incident Management (10)** | **Problem Management (10)** | **Change Management (10)** |
| **Batch Processing (10)** | **Root Cause Analysis (10)** | **Customer Service (10)** |  |
| **Word (10)** | **Excel (10)** | **Powerpoint (10)** | **Visio (5)** |

## Mainframe:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **COBOL (17)** | **IMS DB/DC (11)** | **TSO/ISPF (17)** | **IBM Mainframe (17)** |
| **DB2 (12)** | **SQL (12)** | **Screenform (4)** | **MFS (6)** |
| **IMS-EXPERT (5)** | **FILE-AID (11)** | **BTS (8)** | **EXPEDITER (11)** |
| **DLI (6)** | **ENDEVOR (8)** | **INFOMAN (1)** | **SELCOPY (4)** |
| **EASYTRIEVE (4)** | **SDSF (17)** | **Datamanager (6)** | **PC-DOS (1)** |
| **VSAM (12)** | **CICS (1.5)** | **BMS Source (1.5)** | **COBOL Workbench (0.1)** |
| **TELON (0.25)** | **DL/1 (11)** | **Testing (7)** |  |

# Overview.

*GIS*

I started off supporting Autodesk Vision and after about 5 years, this was migrated to ESRI’s ArcMap / ArcGIS Server.  
I have experience of Geocortex, FME, Arc Desktop and Arc Server, publishing Web services, configuring servers and much more.  
I designed and built batch processes to run automated housekeeping functions, including liaising with Schedulers and setting up the batch schedules.  
I have attended training courses for ArcGIS Desktop, Server and Geocortex with ESRI and 1Spatial  
This was a support role, which required managing incidents and problems as well as changes during maintenance releases. It was standard practice to ensure documentation of progress on incidents was documented and customers communicated with to ensure they were aware of progress and reasons for delays should they arise.

*COBOL*

After 17 years as a COBOL Analyst / Programmer, I have extensive experience of COBOL and COBOL2.  
I have written programs from scratch as well as using existing programs as templates for new ones.

I make certain that there are no unused host variables in working storage and ensure that the program is self-documented when complete (unless specifically requested not to do so).

*DB2*

I have over 12 years DB2 experience, almost to DBA level at one time. I am fully aware of most aspects of performance of DB2 and SQL and understand “EXPLAINS”. This has proved particularly useful on several occasions when I have found that adding an extra index to a table, or including further predicates can improve performance.

*Documentation.*

It is an integral part of all development that programs are documented fully and updated where required. This aids in the identification of changes. Documentation includes test plans and reports of results.

*Testing.*

In the course of developing a new program or making changes to an existing program, thorough testing is always performed at Unit level initially, but going on to include regression testing, system testing and User Acceptance Testing. In all cases below, this methodology has been adhered to and has been associated with varying levels of Quality Assurance dependant on the requirements of the clients at different sites.

*Debugging.*

I have worked approximately 40% on development projects and 60% on support. The support roles have included identifying why programs, both batch and on-line have failed, writing specifications to show what changes are required to prevent the failure persisting and then applying the changes. In development roles, the debugging process is part of the development cycle.

An example of a piece of debugging that I did sometime ago, was when a junior programmer, was having trouble with a batch program that was supposed to write 2 records to a file, but 4 records were being written. Without reference to the code, I asked if he had a STOP RUN command in his code, as if he did not, the program might well perform the Initialisation section, process the data and then perform the termination processing, then drop through into Initialisation again, process the data and repeat the termination processing. This turned out to be the case and my colleague was pleased with the results of adding the command.

I recognise that this example is rather straight forward, but sometimes, it can be the obvious that people miss. I hope it demonstrates that I look to debug programs in a logical manner, by working through things from the most obvious then line-by-line until the cause is identified finally providing a possible solution.

*Professional experience*

My experience is wide and varied.  
I was on the support team for the mapping systems, Autodesk Vison initially and later ESRI’s ArcMap, at UU.

I did an MSCE training course back in 2002 – 2004 in Windows 2000 and gained an MCP (Microsoft Certified Professional) and an MCSA (Microsoft Certified Systems Administrator) qualifications in 2004.  
This means I have a decent understanding of Active Directory.

Prior to this, I did a C Programming course at Liverpool John Moore’s University (night school) and a Java course at Liverpool University (5 week course) for which I got an A\*, but have not worked with Java since.

I’ve worked in IT since I was 19 and have a good knowledge and understanding of Windows and Microsoft Office (good with spreadsheets and word, as well as PowerPoint).

I have some experience of repairing broken PC’s and Laptops, which I have done for friends and relations for a number of years.  
I understand networking and have some Unix experience as well.  
I have used remote access software to access people’ desktops, so am familiar with that too.  
I have supported intranet and external websites.

I am confident dealing with SQL queries and accessing SQL Server DB’s as well as Oracle DB’s under Unix.

Nov 2006 – Jul 2017

United Utilities

[Warrington](https://www.linkedin.com/company/9507/)

Application Consultant for Autodesk Vision system from 2007 till 2012.  
Senior Analyst Programmer from 2013 until leaving, on ArcGIS System.

Working in a team of 7, recently expanded to 9; 5 permanent and 4 contract staff.  
We supported all things mapping at United Utilities.   
I have utilised skills in ArcGIS, ArcFM, SQL, FME, Geocortex and DOS.   
Also some exposure to LocatorHub.  
Responsibilities included managing the Live system and ensuring that non-live environments are maintained in line with production, overnight support of batch processes, Incident and Problem management, raising and implementing changes using Remedy.

I have also provided support for the UU website and Intranet, gaining some rudimentary skills in this area.  
I have also provided support for Netbase (mainly liaising with Crowder).

14 September 2000 – 31 March 2002

ICL / Royal Bank of Scotland

Edinburgh

Employed as an Analyst / Programmer on the Mortgage Scaling Project.

The Objective of the Scaling Team was to remove unnecessary hard coding from COBOL Programs, to identify methods of improving the efficiency of Programs and to improve the Run-times of Jobs in the overnight Batch Suite for the Mortgage Manager System.

The purpose of this work was to ensure that when Natwest’s data is migrated over to the Mortgage Manager System, that the daily batch suite would be able to run in the available window.

As part of this team, I took an active and principal role in the following tasks.

Investigated the entire Mortgage System with a view to identifying Interfaces, both in and out.

These vary in nature. There are Flat files, VSAM Files, DB2 Tables and unloaded DB2 Tables.

The removal of hard-coded references was achieved by replacing them with accesses to a DB2 table.

Amending programs and jobs to enable processing in parallel streams.

After Identifying and documenting all of the Mortgage Manager Interfaces, I made the necessary Program changes to ensure more efficient running. This included work on Sort Exit processing as well as running programs against partitioned DB2 Tables and bringing multiple files back together into one extract file afterwards.

Some Data Integrity issues were identified in the comprehensive Volume testing stage of the Development cycle. These issues were also found in the Live data and it was my responsibility to document them, pass the information on to the Production Support Team and to develop some Jobs to be run on a regular basis to identify when new issues arise.

It fell to the Production Support team to identify solutions to these issues through Data Fixes and Program changes and to implement them.

I was also involved in the Unit, System, Volume and User Acceptance Testing of all scaling functions, the support of them and in the liaison with downstream systems in order to ensure a smooth conversion of data from the Natwest UFSS system onto Mortgage Manager.

This contract was initially for 9 months followed by a six-month and then a three-month extension.

**Skills used: COBOL, DB2, EXPEDITER, SPUFI, VSAM, FILEAID, TSO, SDSF, ENDEVOR, JCL**

24 August 2000 - 11 September 2000 (fixed short term contract)

Data Dimensions

Galway, EIRE

Data Dimensions principal role is to support a Health Care system running in the USA. This system runs PL1 programs.

I spent one month in Galway learning the basics of PL1 and helping to support the Healthcare system. Unfortunately, although this was a planned move into a permanent position, it was not financially viable and by agreement of both parties I returned to the UK.

**Skills used: PL1, COBOL, DB2, QMF, FILEAID, TSO, JCL, SDSF**

05 July 2000 - 14 August 2000 (fixed short term contract)

IBM,

Perth, Scotland

My role involved making amendments to COBOL, EASYTRIEVE, EARL and SELCOPY programs. This was part of a project to offer Insurance products to Marks and Spencers customers. After making the changes, which were, specced before I arrived, it was my responsibility to perform thorough Unit testing on each program to ensure the changes had been applied correctly. I was also be supporting the User Acceptance testing phase. This involved running jobs in Batch Schedule sequence when required. This involved investigating and debugging any ABENDS that took place and checking that the Output produced was correct.

**Skills used: COBOL, DB2, QMF, FILEAID, TSO**

23 April 1999 – 04 July 2000

Due to a serious downturn in the Contract market, I was unable to find work in the Computer Industry during this period. In order to make ends meet, I took work variously as a taxi driver, in a T-Shirt printing factory, leaflet deliverer and in a call centre.

02 February 1999 – 22 April 1999

MR Database Management

Kingston upon Hull/Humberside

I was employed as an Analyst Programmer working on the Shell Smart Cards System. The work involved writing new Online programs, using CICS, as well as batch work. I gained experience of designing and building CICS Screens, plus experience of debugging errors arising on those screens. Although I have not had any formal training in this area, I found it straightforward and feel it has enhanced my skill set.

**Skills used: COBOL 2, CICS, DB2, and TSO**

01 June 1998 – 27 November 1998

Lloyd’s Register of Shipping

Leadenhall St, London

I was involved in doing much more Analysis work than in previous positions. I worked in a team of three (plus manager), supporting the HQSC (HQ Survey Control) System. This system holds data relating to all the Vessels that Lloyd’s Register do Surveys of sea-worthiness on. This includes Basic ship details as well as more ship-specific data such as individual surveys and required actions arising from those surveys. The work required that I possessed a good understanding of IMS.

Example of work done: The system picked up the Date that a Ship was built and the Country where the ship is registered from a Database not controlled by HQSC. It was my task to investigate all instances where this data was extracted and to make the necessary amendments to pick it up from a different location. This also meant writing a conversion program and updating the database. Naturally, all programs were thoroughly tested with Test Plans produced and agreed and results checked before work was signed off and programs implemented.

**Skills used: COBOL, IMS DB/DC, DLI, TSO**

July 1997 – June 1998

Equitable Life Assurance

Aylesbury/BUCKS Equitable

Initially employed on a six-month contract was extended for a further six months to July 1998. Left 1 month early due to lack of work at the site and offer of a position at Lloyd’s register of Shipping in London. I worked in teams of between four and eight people. This was mainly a Programming Job, with specifications provided by an Analyst, which I then applied. As the Systems involved were completely new to me (not the ones I worked on in my first contract at this site), this required some painstaking investigation and setting up of test data to ensure compliance with the specification. Testing was both extensive and required documentation. This site uses CICS, COBOL and DB2. As a result, I have gained some experience making changes to BMS Source Libraries (Screen definitions) and amending working storage copybooks for the screen definitions, as well as making code changes to CICS Programs. I also learnt how to define transactions to a CICS Service and gained a working knowledge of resolving CICS errors. I was also involved on the Year 2000 Project. We discovered some problems brought about by moving to OS/370 Compiler. These required painstakingly checking all of the batch programs to see if the file sizes expected by the programs are exactly matched by the DCB information in the relevant JCL. This proved quite a headache that took about 3 weeks to resolve. Though repetitive, this work was both challenging and rewarding given that we wanted to achieve a one-time resolution of these problems.

**Skills used: CICS, COBOL, DB2, EXPEDITER, QMF, FILEAID, TSO, EASYTRIEVE**

January 1997 – July 1997

Ford Credit

St. Albans, HERTS

Employed as a member of a small team, we were responsible for migrating an entire system from a Wang platform to IBM Mainframe. This involved downloading COBOL programs via PC and adapting them to work under IMS. Some new programs were written and I wrote the skeleton program we used to assist the conversion. The programs were mainly On-line Transactions, so the accompanying screens were also developed (using TELON). The Wang system incorporated the screen designs into them, so that code had to be removed, but the functionality had to be maintained. Testing involved comparing the results on the Mainframe with results extracted from the Wang. I was the only member of the team with previous experience of IMS DB/DC, so it was primarily my responsibility to pass on my knowledge to other team members and to create skeleton programs for use in the development of the new system.

**Skills used: IMS DB/DC, DLI, COBOL, DB2, QMF, TELON, TSO**

March 1996 – December 1996

Hitachi Europe

Maidenhead, BERKS

I was employed as an Analyst Programmer in the Production Support Team. This was a comparatively new function at the Site. I was involved in the setting up of Working Practices and Procedures to be used to ensure that all Production Problems whether On-line or Batch are reported to the team. This required a good working knowledge of IMS DB/DC and as a member of the team, I was responsible for investigating problems reported to me and finding solutions. The work was varied, interesting and demanding, requiring flexibility in liasing with both colleagues with greater experience of the systems where problems are reported and with the Users, who requested some of the changes. Testing consisted of producing Test Plans, which had to be agreed by the Analyst, and producing Documentation to prove that not only did the changes work, but also that existing functionality was not affected.

**Skills used: IMS DB/DC, DLI, COBOL, DB2, EXPEDITER, QMF, FILEAID, TSO, MFS, EASYTRIEVE**

December 1995 – March 1996

British Steel

Redcar, Cleveland

Employed strictly as a Programmer for this 3-month contract, all work was written to Specifications provided by the lead Analyst on the Project I was working on.

Standards were strictly adhered to, with Quality Assurance processes at each Phase of the development. These consisted of Code checking and Documentation of Test Plans with results which were checked and agreed by the Analyst.

Most programs operated within the batch environment, but I was called on to write a number of on-line programs for which I utilised my previous experience of IMS.

**Skills used: IMS DB/DC, DLI, COBOL, DB2, EXPEDITER, QMF, FILEAID, TSO, MFS**

February 1995 - November 1995

F.I. Group/Barclays Bank

Liverpool, Merseyside

Working for the Masterloan Team, Production Support was provided daily for the On-line system and, on a one week in four basis, overnight batch cover, On-call, was provided.  
The main area of work was in maintenance of the On-line system (IMS) with items of work ranging from “Quick Fixes” to analysis of problems / ABENDS encountered by Users, recommending solutions and implementing them. All work was done in a strictly controlled manner with each phase of development being audited and signed off before moving on to the next phase. These phases consisted of Design, Code, Test Plans and eventually a walk through of the changes and effects before Sign Off.

**Skills used: IMS DB/DC, DLI, COBOL, DB2, EXPEDITER, QMF, FILEAID, TSO, MFS, SELCOPY**

August 1994 - February 1995

Equitable Life Assurance

Aylesbury/BUCKS

I was mainly responsible for producing and maintaining a new program with Phase 4 of the Endowments Project. This program produced Notification Letters and cheques. The type of letter produced depended on a complex number of selection criteria that were frequently adjusted as the program went through the testing phase. This was a CICS site.

**Skills used: COBOL, CICS, DB2, EXPEDITER, QMF, FILEAID, TSO, EASYTRIEVE.**

April 1991 - August 1994

Bayer PLC

Newbury/BERKS

My skills in the use of DB2 improved dramatically due to extensive work in both the Batch and On-line (IMS) environments as a permanent member of the Corporate Support team at Bayer. This role provided support for existing systems and involvement in the development of new ones. I was required to provide first call support for the overnight batch on a regular basis. There was call for use of Easytrieve at this site, both in the batch system, for re-formatting files and also for use in testing to produce reports when producing Test results.

I was significantly involved in the D.I.S. project. This involved maintenance of Pharmaceutical Sales data from an external source (IMS) on a PC based system (DIS). The data was held on DB2 Tables at various aggregation levels and it was my responsibility to devise and implement the programs to load the data received on a monthly basis and also to apply corrections provided on an Ad-hoc basis, maintaining the integrity of the data. With up to five aggregation levels both in terms of product and location, this would require recalculation of values on up to 25 rows of the database for each amendment record received. A number of PC based reporting tools were available. I attended a number of training courses leading to me producing a number of PC Icon driven Applications for Users from Specifications provided by them. I gained a brief working knowledge of Microfocus COBOL Workbench at Bayer, but have not used it for any development work. All changes had to be documented, including Test Plans and expected results.

**Skills used: IMS DB/DC, DLI, COBOL, DB2, EXPEDITER, QMF, FILEAID, TSO, Microfocus COBOL Workbench, DIS, SCREENFORM, SELCOPY, EASYTRIEVE**

August 1990 - December 1990

Norwich Union

Norwich/Norfolk

Whilst employed as a contract Programmer at Norwich Union I learnt how to code COBOL Programs accessing DB2 Databases as well as how to use native SQL and QMF.

**Skills used: IMS DB/DC, DLI, COBOL, DB2, EXPEDITER, QMF, FILEAID, TSO**

September 1983 - July 1990

Royal Insurance

Liverpool/Merseyside

Initially employed as a trainee Computer Operator, I feel this experience gives me some insight into the issues that affect operations staff.

I joined Royal Insurance from School. After 6 months I took a further “A” level and as a result was taken on permanently in Management Information Systems (MIS) as a Trainee Programmer. There I learnt how to write code in the COBOL Programming language and subsequently extensive experience of IMS DB/DC.   
Employed in the Channel and Account Support Team, I was principally employed to produce on-line programs for new personal insurance products. This involved cloning existing programs and modifying them to the new requirements of each product whilst still conforming to company programming standards and creating MFS to define the Screens that they would use.  
On occasion duties included liasing with end users.  
I was involved in the production of Motor and Household insurance renewals.  
I wrote a suite of programs that performed a Lapse-monitoring function for which I did all the work necessary to write, test and eventually, implement live.  
Later, I worked on the Networking Project, which involved accepting data from an external source, validating it and updating databases, wherever possible. Reporting functions were built-in. Due to the complex nature of the programs, testing was also complicated and as a result I wrote a number of programs in MKIV and COBOL to assist in the production of test data and the analysis of it.  
I was employed for a short period in the PC Support Team, during which time I gained a good working knowledge of DOS, IBM’s Display-Write products, Lotus-123 and Freelance.  
All documentation on the Mainframe System was done using DATAMANAGER.  
I was responsible on more than one occasion for supervising and training new staff.

**Skills used: IMS DB/DC, DLI, COBOL, EXPEDITER, QMF, FILEAID, TSO, MKIV, PC DOS, DW4, Lotus123, MFS**