

Gordon Kirk BSc CEng FBCS

Consultant in software engineering, quality assurance, and software management.

Advice on quality assurance, software project management and contract management, software standards, software reliability, software metrics, software safety, real time systems, embedded software, system software, and IT systems generally; requirements analysis; business continuity; IT strategy studies; audits and reviews; project management; Web design; programming.

SUMMARY OF EXPERIENCE

1988 - Gordon Kirk Limited

Recent work includes:

- member of the Audit Advisory Committee of a European agency;
- projects manager in a start-up software house;
- technical monitoring of a European Web-based telematics project: reviewing specifications and test strategies, and monitoring and reviewing acceptance tests;
- setting up an internal web portal for a company information system (including search and discussion forum features) using php and MySQL;
- development of a software package for systems auditors, using Java and XML;
- setting up the procedures for a company to carry out certification against BS 7799 (information security management);
- reviewing the test processes for an IT department and devising an improved approach;
- guidance to a government department IT team in putting systems in place to enable them to obtain ISO 9000 TickIT certification;
- work for a research organisation to investigate how they could participate in the EU Framework IV Research Programme and exploit their own security research;
- setting up the procedures for a company to carry out ISO 9000 certification;
- evaluation of proposals made by bidders for software work, mostly security-related;
- monitoring of several safety-related projects for a government department;
- advice as an expert witness;
- requirements analysis and design of a large, multi-site, PC network;
- the analysis and definition of the requirements for a unit to provide cost estimating metrics within a software company;
- advice to several software companies and to a research organisation on implementing ISO9001 and TickIT;
- quality assurance auditing to ISO 9001 and TickIT;
- work on software reliability and software metrics;
- work on a training plan for the development staff in a service company;
- a study into the scope, policy, and strategy for a company's management information system.

1971 - 1988 Logica plc

- Manager of Software Engineering in Logica Space and Defence Systems Ltd. Responsible for specialist software engineering in: methods, languages, software reliability, quality assurance, standards for safety critical software, formal methods, and training.
- Chairman of the Computing Services Association (CSA) Software Engineering Committee.
- In 1982: Director of the Software Products Group, which developed Unix products and carried out ports of Unix for computer manufacturers. Over 25 ports were carried out, mostly of Xenix.
- Between 1978 and 1981 was Manager of the Finance Division, and then of the Communications Group.

- During 1977 was Manager responsible for Quality Assurance and Contracts. This was a new post within the company, to review and set up the standards used by the company for project management, quality assurance, design methods, and contracts. Culminated in Logica's being assessed for and approved to DefStan05-21 (a precursor of BS5750 and ISO9001).
- In 1975 and 1976 was Project Manager of a project for the European Space Agency being carried out by an international consortium to deliver the ground control and support software for Meteosat. The project team (of about 50 staff) was drawn from six European countries on a consortium and sub-contract basis; the work was carried out in France and Germany.
- In 1974, was Personnel Manager during a period when the company's personnel policies were being developed and formulated.
- During 1972, was Manager of the Basic Software Division.

1966 - 1971 CEIR Ltd (became Scicon, now part of EDS)

- Worked on the Hubcap Air Defence system; later was Project Manager during the system integration and flight trials on site in Australia.
- Project Leader of a Program Preparing System for a telex switching computer. The PPS was portable between OS and DOS on IBM360 series machines.

1965 Ferranti Ltd West Gorton (now part of Fujitsu Systems Ltd)

- Programmer on the development of the Executive for the then new 1900 Series machines.

1964 Rolls Royce (Derby) Limited

- Programmer of the language processor for a machine tool control program.

PREVIOUS REPORTS

1. For Mace & Jones of Liverpool, I answered a number of questions concerning a motor trader and a firm who had supplied a computer system to manage his business information. The report examined whether the supplier appeared to have done what he contracted to do. The report considered the cost consequences of various lines of action, and considered whether there seemed likely to be any copyright problems.
2. For Browne Jacobson of Nottingham, I reported on software copyright for a case in which the client's software was being copied without permission.
3. For Humphreys & Co of Bristol, I produced a report on how to approach the task of analysing whether the software supplied to the client had been of merchantable quality.
4. For All Saints' Chambers Bristol, I examined a software program to assess whether the problems being encountered with it were due to the software or to its users.
5. For Ben Williams & McColl, I reported on the suitability of a software program to meet the needs of independent financial advisors.
6. For Olswang, I reported on the compliance of delivered software with the contractual specification. The software was training software developed for display with a web browser.
7. For Leigh Day, I reported on whether a quality management system (developed for a software writer) had been developed adequately to meet the requirements of ISO 9001.
8. For MF&BH and asb law, I acted as SJE and reported on whether delivered software was fit for its purpose.
9. For 'asb law' and Neale Turk, I acted as SJE and reported on whether anti-virus software was fit for its purpose.
10. For Gittins McDonald and Lamb & Holmes, I acted as SJE and reported on whether delivered web site and software was fit for its purpose.

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

University of Manchester - BSc Honours Degree in Chemistry



Registered as a Lead Software Quality Management Auditor (ie: TickIT) by the IRCA (A014696)

EXAMINATIONS

Information Security Management System Auditor Conversion, 2005

PRINCE2 Foundation, 2005

AFFILIATIONS

Fellow of the British Computer Society

Chartered Engineer; Chartered IT Professional

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