CICS for AIX and other Open Systems

The strength of CICS extends to the Open Systems world

Space for CICS family motif

CICS on Open Systems

. . . is a family of products
CICS runs on AIX and other derivatives of the UNIX, known collectively as as Open Systems. The family includes :

- IBM CICS for AIX
- IBM CICS Client for AIX
- IBM CICS Client for Sun Systems
- a growing number of versions for non-IBM platforms based on CICS for AIX.

. . . is commercial-strength
POSIX-compliant CICS also offers TCP/IP and the de facto industry standard application programming interface, making CICS truly an open system with the power and dependability to run mission-critical applications.

. . . means client/server
CICS exploits the power of your workstations by integrating client/server distributed computing with other CICS environments.

. . . delivers where you need it
CICS has the flexibility to provide application power as far as your enterprise extends, on a wide range of IBM and non-IBM systems.

CICS on Open Systems

CICS is a business application server. Rather than just the transaction processing functions that are claimed by some relational database management systems (RDBMSs), a rich set of CICS functions and services manage all application resources to provide powerful client/server support that interoperates across platforms and can be scaled to any size of enterprise.

The powerful CICS client/server capabilities allow workloads to be balanced by distributing and sharing resources across systems in Local and Wide Area Networks. CICS fits naturally into any open system and has a high degree of integrity and longevity through its combination of the application server-power of CICS and adherence to open distributed standards. It makes use of the security features of DCE (Distributed Computing Environment) and supports the TCP/IP communications protocol.

IBM CICS for AIX comprises both server and client code for IBM RISC System/6000 workstations, plus a CICS Client product for Sun workstations. IBM has also made a statement of direction that it will provide clients for PC and Apple workstations enabling them to be connected to any CICS server. In addition, there is a growing number of versions based on CICS for AIX that have been announced for non-IBM server platforms.

Commercial strength

CICS provides full-function transaction processing for mission-critical applications in your Open Systems environment.

With CICS you are future-proof. You will be able to connect to whatever technology suits your developing needs. You will be able to scale the size of your systems for as many users as your business demands. And you will be able to take advantage of a multitude of CICS applications that can be ported directly to your CICS platform.

CICS is truly an open system - with all the associated advantages, such as interoperability and application portability - due to the CICS open API and support for Open Systems standards through CICS for AIX and related products.

And you have the benefit of the CICS industry behind you as well, a huge range of software, tools and services that has grown up to support a demanding customer base that includes almost all of the Fortune 500 companies. When CICS is part of your information strategy, you are part of the future of information systems.

Space for diagram illustrating CICS connectivity.

Client/server

CICS builds on the benefits of a client/server environment. Your CICS applications can now distribute function in any way that best suits your business: for example, by using a Motif graphical user interface for presentation on the client workstation. CICS also provides support for traditional data file systems as well as IBM and non-IBM relational databases on both the workstation and the host.

Server support CICS provides all the function and services necessary to provide powerful server support on IBM RISC System/6000, and on a growing number of non-IBM UNIX workstations. Workload management is built in to help maintain a consistent and predictable response to client workstations.

If you have host data in popular DB2 or any other RDBMSs such as Informix, Ingres, Oracle or Sybase, you can gain access from CICS on Open Systems. You can just as easily move data and host applications to your server, so that your business computing resources are located where they best meet your business needs.

Client support: CICS client support allows you to capitalize on your workstation investment immediately by using your 3270 applications on the desktop, and then go on to develop the presentation and distribution benefits at a pace that suits the needs of your business. Client applications can be implemented in three simple and low risk stages:

- Emulate a 3270 display, allowing the client to access your CICS applications and data from anywhere in your network immediately, without any change to the programs.
- Capitalize on modern user interfaces by adding a GUI front-end to your client applications, allowing users to become more productive.
- Develop distributed client/server applications where the presentation logic runs in the client and the CICS application and data can be anywhere in your network.

There is a client component in IBM CICS for AIX and CICS for non-IBM servers, and client support is also provided for Sun workstations. IBM plans to offer CICS Clients for DOS, Windows, OS/2 and Apple Macintosh.

Delivers everywhere

CICS is an amazingly versatile system, giving your business the flexibility and reach that it needs to stay ahead of your competitors.

With CICS, the ability of client/server applications to interconnect flexibly means that you can reach users and customers anywhere across your network, from PCs to mainframes.

And CICS can connect to many DB systems as well, giving the ability to access multiple databases from a single application, or simultaneously run applications against different databases, with transparent location of resources across the network.

The ability to set up your CICS system in any way that you need, combined with access to a huge portfolio of proven CICS applications from IBM and ISV′s makes CICS a complete systems environment, the universal client/server solution and truly the system for an open future.

What's new in CICS for AIX

- An improved server transaction scheduler means you'll see higher transaction throughput
- Easier configuration of the CICS/6000 environment with a new utility
- Support for popular DB2/6000 and other RDBMSs, allowing users to stay at the forefront of database technology.
- Wider client support with the inclusion of CICS Client for Sun, increased support for multiple terminals, and various performance improvements.

Information for decision-makers

Program number:	5765-148 IBM CICS/6000 Version 1 Release 1.1
Complementary products	• IBM AIX Client for CICS/6000, 5765-152 • IBM CICS Client for Sun Systems, 5765-290 • IBM AIX DB2/6000, 5765-172
Hardware requirements	Any POWERstation and POWERserver model configured with a minimum of one supported display with keyboard and mouse, or one supported ASCII terminal
Memory requirements	• Minimum of 64MB for CICS/6000 is recommended • Minimum of 16MB for Client for CICS/6000 is recommended
Operating system	AIX Version 3.2.4 or later
Programming requirements	• DCE Base/6000 is required for both CICS/6000 and Client for CICS/6000 • Encina Peer-to-Peer Executive for AIX and Encina Server for AIX are required for CICS/6000 • the following programs are required within a DCE cell accessible from CICS/6000: – Encina Structured File Service for AIX and its prerequisites – DCE Cell Directory Server/6000 – DCE Security Server/6000 • Encina Peer-to-Peer Gateway for AIX and AIX SNA Services are required for SNA connectivity
Language requirements	• Application programs written in COBOL must have been compiled with the Micro Focus COBOL Version 3.1 for UNIX • Micro Focus COBOL Run Time Environment Release 3.1 or later is required for execution of COBOL application programs • Application programs written in C must have been compiled with the AIX XL/C Compiler, included in AIX

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Printed in USA and Denmark

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GC33-1448-00 (07/94)