



Paul - Gallery Technician

## Paul's bringing the world of science to life for thousands of museum visitors a year.

The Science Museum is one of the nation's most popular visitor attractions and is full of galleries where people learn about science and engineering through interactive exhibits. But behind each exhibit is a hard-working Gallery Technician.

Paul's specialism is the electro-mechanical side of the exhibits in the museum. That means he could be doing anything from fixing a robot arm at his bench or thinking of how to build new activities on gallery, to updating older exhibits or creating new mounts for museum artefacts.

"You've got to know almost everything about everything to work in these galleries. But the beauty is that if you don't know it, someone else in the team will, and no one keeps things to themselves -everyone shares ideas and that's how we come up with some of the more unusual exhibits!"

"We've got lots of exhibits on gallery that constantly need maintenance because their popularity means they break more often. That needs a lot of creative thought - you have to think about how you can make something robust while still being able to maintain its aesthetics. We also get asked to make new interactives which is a very creative process."

Paul hasn't always worked at museums - he previously worked for ten years at the industrial engineering company JCB before deciding he wanted to do something new. His time at the Science Museum has made him realise that it is not the title that makes a job interesting or satisfying - it's what you actually get to do.

"It's funny because when I saw the job here, and it said technician, my first thought was 'I've been an engineer at JCB, people might think "why is he taking a step down?"' Whereas, I think now, if you look around our workshop at the amount of skill, ability and knowledge people have, it's definitely up there alongside an engineering environment."

## Technicians make it happen

Find out more at:  
[technicians.org.uk](http://technicians.org.uk)

2007  
Completed a BTEC in  
Mechanical Engineering

September 2007  
Began a three-year  
Advanced Mechanical  
Engineering  
apprenticeship with JCB,  
which included a year in  
college.

2010  
Completed his  
apprenticeship and gained  
a HNC, moved into the  
development workshop  
and became a  
development engineer

August 2017  
Left JCB and went  
travelling for a year

September 2018  
Joined the Science  
Museum in London as a  
Gallery Technician

# SCIENCE MUSEUM

