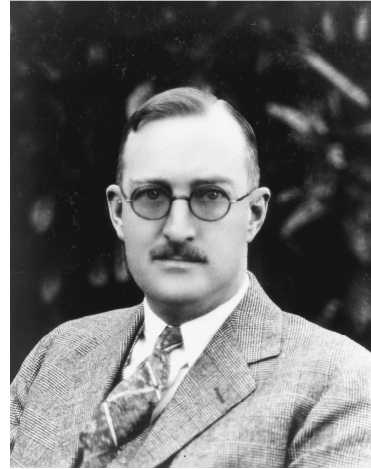


Daniel Guggenheim Medal

MEDALIST FOR 1934

For successful pioneering and achievement in aircraft manufacturing and air transport.



WILLIAM EDWARD BOEING

As one of the world's foremost aircraft manufacturers, William Edward Boeing brought to the airplane industry, when it was most needed, industrial leadership backed by ample resources. He thus helped to change into a great industry what had previously been little more than a venturesome sport.

Born October 1, 1881, in Detroit, Michigan, and educated in the United States and Switzerland, Boeing entered the Sheffield Scientific School at Yale University, but dropped out in 1903, a year short of a diploma, to move to Grays Harbor, Washington, where he bought extensive timberlands.

In 1914, after making several airplane flights, Boeing and a friend, Conrad Westervelt, decided to build their own plane. With typical thoroughness, Boeing first went to Los Angeles, in 1915, and took flying instruction from Glenn L. Martin. He purchased a Martin seaplane and became a proficient pilot. Only then did he put a crew to work designing and building the first two Boeing aircraft, the B & W float-planes, in a hangar on the shore of Lake Union in Seattle.

Encouraged by the success of these planes, which flew in 1916, he incorporated the Pacific Aero Products Company, which soon became the Boeing Airplane Company. The new company, occupying a small converted shipyard on the Duwamish River in Seattle, grew to be one of the largest aircraft plants in the world, pioneering new designs and ideas. Boeing military and commercial planes—the B-17, B-29, B-47 and B-52 bombers; the Stratoliners, Stratocruisers, and the 707, 720 and 727 jet transports—have become world famous.

One of the earliest airplanes produced by the company, the B-1 Flying Boat, was purchased in 1920 by Edward Hubbard for use on the first regular air mail run between Seattle and Victoria, B.C. In 1919 Hubbard and Boeing had carried the first sack of mail flown in the United States from Canada, in a Boeing Model C float-plane.

In 1927 Boeing branched into the field of air transportation. In a joint bid with Edward Hubbard, the Boeing company won a U.S. Government contract to operate an air mail route from San

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Francisco to Chicago. When it began operation, on July 1, 1927, this air mail line of 1,950 miles was the longest in the world operated by one interest.

Boeing Air Transport early led the field in developing and proving advanced ideas of passenger airline operation. Its planes were the first to fly passengers at night on regular schedules over long distances, to have two pilots and a stewardess, and to use constant contact between pilot and ground by two-way radio telephone.

Boeing retired from the industry in 1934 shortly after his airline was separated, as United Air Lines, from the parent company. He died on September 28, 1956, while on his yacht on Puget Sound.