



The Cessna Airmaster was the aircraft that reenergized the Cessna Aircraft Company's financial statement after the Great Depression.
(Author's Private Library)

An Introduction –

Welcome to a nostalgic look back into the 1940s, 1950s and early 1960s aircraft produced by the Cessna Aircraft Company. Most books like to start at the beginning but this book actually begins in the middle.

That's right; our look back begins in what we could call the middle years of the Cessna Aircraft Company. The Great Depression started just two years after the company began. Its economic chaos nearly ended the success Clyde Cessna enjoyed, but just before WWII, the company was revived by sales of the Airmaster.

As the war years unfolded, Cessna did its part to help defend freedom and when the troops came home and for the next twenty years the company participated in some of the largest growth experienced in American aviation. Our look back stops before Cessna moved into the business jet aircraft market in the late 1960s.

Enjoy the trip back in time and when you are ready to look forward, today's Cessna hosts a stunning array of aircraft ranging from the Citation family of jets, the unparalleled performance of the Caravan family of business aircraft and Cessna's robust personal single engine family.