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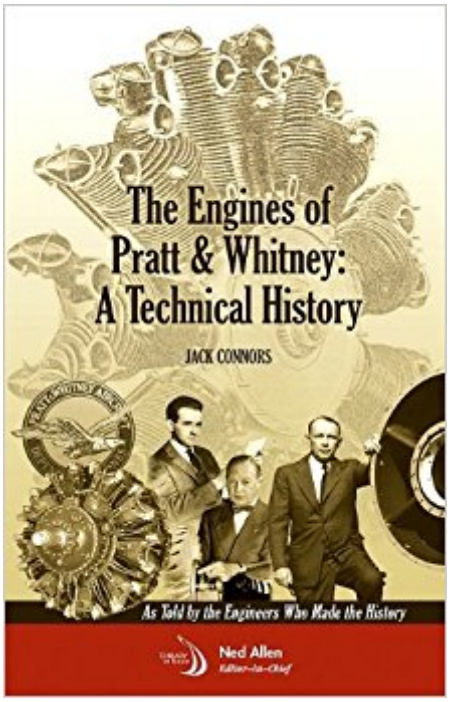

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Synopsis

The Engines of Pratt & Whitney: A Technical History recounts the role played by Pratt & Whitney (P&W) in the evolution of aircraft engines from 1925 to the present timefor the most part as told by the engineers who made the history. A technical reference of all P&W engines and their applications, the book describes the evolution of piston engines and gas turbines, and offers young engineers a wealth of insights about design, development, marketing, and product support efforts for customers at home and abroad. The first three chapters introduce the contributions of Frederick Rentschler, George Mead, and Leonard Hobbs, with stories of how each new piston engine came into being. From 19401945 P&W committed its engineering efforts to winning World War II, but when the war was over, P&W found itself on the outside of the gas turbine market, which was capably being served by General Electric and Westinghouse. How P&W emerged from being five years behind the competition in 1945 to a positio

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Customer Reviews

Jack Connors joined Pratt & Whitney in 1948, following three years in the Army Air Corps in World War II, and his graduation from MIT with an MS in Mechanical Engineering. His 35-year career at P&W included engineering, domestic and international marketing, and program management. He was East Hartford Engineerings representative working with the Air Force in the F100 engine competition to assist P&Ws Florida Research & Development Centers efforts. He was in charge of

the marketing campaigns that launched the Boeing 767 at United Air Lines and the Airbus A310 at SwissAir with the JT9D engine. His last assignment was representing P&Ws Commercial Products Division in creating the International Aero Engines collaboration. He retired in 1983 as Vice President of Advanced Engine Programs. Since then, he has been a consultant to P&W and International Aero Engines, and an active volunteer as an engine curator and a fundraiser for the New England Air Museum. The Connecticut Society of Professional Engineers named him the Engineer of the Year Award in 1987 for his volunteer work on acid-rain monitoring in Connecticut. To resurrect the dormant P&W Archives and develop a computer database of its contents, he worked with another volunteer for over seven years, an effort that made it possible to write this book.

An excellent book! Having worked on several models of the engine's as an aircraft mechanic through out my years, I found it very interesting to learn the names and inside history to the engines I've cared for in the past. The book is written in easy terms to understand and covers most all of P&W's engines except the pt-6 and pw100(pt-7) series turboprop engines. I would recommend this book for anyone interested in the P&W story! This book was delivered quickly and in perfect condition.

A must read for any mechanical gear-head who likes aviation engines. This book is referenced by Kevin Cameron at Cycle World for its engine development insights. It would have been nice to have more technical info and left out some of the commercial stuff, but the commercial and contractual cooperation of P&W with the airframe manufacturers is part of the business. A fascinating read.

Very good interviews with the engineers and description of the transition from piston to turbine engines. Focus on the technical challenges with minor background into the business end of things.

Thoroughly researched and clearly written.

My son was glad to get it. His company makes parts for P&W.

Great history for those that like the technical side of aircraft propulsion. Covers earliest engines in 1920's to modern jets and rockets.

This is a very accessible history of P&W engines, told in the form of the engineers' own words, and in historical anecdotes. Refreshing, especially in comparison with the usual corporate histories which discuss the problems of the bond issue of 1947 and the difficult compromise achieved over the parking lot expansions. Engineering is seen to be a succession of ideas that are either proven or disproven by a lot of developmental work.

As a PW retiree, I really enjoyed this book. It includes some facts and engineering information that I was not exposed to as a PW employee.

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