

William E. Jackson



*William E. Jackson
1904-1972*

William E. Jackson was a pioneer in Aviation. He was an internationally known and highly regarded electronics engineer remembered for his intense and creative interest in the fields of aeronautical navigation, communications and air traffic control.

During his long career in both industry and government, William E. Jackson contributed to the development of nearly all of the electronic aids to air navigation and air traffic control. He was noted especially for his outstanding contributions to instrument landing systems, very high frequency omniranges, and distance measuring equipment – the worldwide standard systems in use today. He wrote more than 150 publications and edited *The Federal Airways System*, published in July 1970 by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. That publication traces 40 years of history and accomplishments and reflects many of Mr. Jackson's pioneering contributions to aviation.

Mr. Jackson was particularly interested in assisting young engineers seeking a career in aviation electronics. He helped many of them start their careers and provided constant encouragement, counsel, and assistance. His deep interest in engineering students inspired many to choose aviation careers. He was as interested in the junior engineer's technical effort as he was in top management's activities.

Mr. Jackson's career spanned the years that saw air transportation become dominant in public inter-city transportation and a vital force in private and business travel. His participation in the efforts that made this growth possible, his dedication to helping young engineers, and his leadership in and support for RTCA are recognized by the Annual William E. Jackson Award.