

Hewlett-Packard: The Flight

of the Kittyhawk (A)

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Rachel Crow, Donovan Hill, Michael Klevens, Walter Smith, & Fabrizio Medrano





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History of Hewlett-Packard









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1939: Stanford electrical engineers Bill Hewlett and Dave Packard found the company out of a Palo Alto garage with \$538 and a Sears-Roebuck drill press. They decide whose name would go first with a coin toss.

Revenue is \$5,369 after one year. Their first product is the resistance-capacitance audio oscillator, a version of which was sold to the Walt Disney Co.

1940: HP pays its first bonus to employees -- a \$5 Christmas windfall. In the 1940s, it begins to benefit from U.S. orders for electronics with the onset of World War II and growing acceptance for its products in the engineering and scientific community.