# BROAN' NuTone

# 1932



A man with vision, Henry L. Broan developed and manufactured a kitchen fan called the Motordor® Fan that provided quiet and efficient kitchen ventilation. This single product helped carry his dream far beyond anything Henry Broan could have envisioned.

# 1936

Four years later, in 1936, J. Ralph Corbett developed a melodious door chime replacing the obnoxious door buzzer of the time. His development launched what became known as NuTone, Inc.

## 1946



Henry Broan converted his original company, Midwest Manufacturing Company, to a corporation and officially became Broan Manufacturing Company, Inc. and was based at 1669 North Water Street in Milwaukee.

## 1954



Jack Broan, son of Henry Broan, visits the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) in Chicago to learn everything he could about rage hood competition. Since then, Broan-NuTone has been an exhibitor at the annual International Builder's Show (IBS).

#### 1956

Broan outgrew its Water Street facility and moved its headquarters to Hartford, Wisconsin, about 40 miles northwest of Milwaukee. The facility is still home to the Broan-NuTone corporate headquarters and its large, state-of-the-art manufacturing facility.



Two weeks prior to the move, Henry Broan died of a sudden heart attack at the age of 56. His wife, Edna, became president and held that position until 1967, one of only a handful of women to head a U.S. manufacturing company at that time. The company had 49 employees and Broan sales reached \$1 million for the first time.

#### 1958

Broan developed a converter that processed odors and smoke through a charcoal filter. It could be attached to existing range hoods or used when ducted hoods cost more than the buyer wanted to pay. This converter, together with Broan's group of range hoods, heaters, fans and lights combined with systematic advertising and promotion programs, put Broan on the map.

### 1967



Jack Broan, son of Henry and Edna Broan, is named President and began to investigate and implement strategic planning. In addition he set the groundwork for moving computerization beyond the office and into manufacturing.