The Heath Company was founded as an aircraft company in 1911by Edward Bayard Heath with the purchase of Bates Aeroplane Company, soon renamed to E.B. Heath Aerial Vehicle Co. Starting in 1926 it sold a light aircraft, the Heath Parasol, in kit form Heath died during a 1931 test flight

The company reorganized and moved from Chicago to Niles, Michigan In 1935, Howard Anthony purchased the then-bankrupt Heath Company, and focused on selling accessories for small aircraft. After World War II, Anthony decided that entering the electronics industry was a good idea, and bought a large stock of surplus wartime electronic parts with the intention of building kits with them. In 1947, Heath introduced its first electronic kit, the O1 oscilloscope with 5 inch diameter cathode ray tube display (CRT) that sold for US\$39.50 (equivalent to \$539 in 2023) – the price was unbeatable at the time, and the oscilloscope went on to be a huge sellerWikipedia