

Lycoming XR-7755 - USA	
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<p><i>XR-7755 ENGINEERING TEAM are shown with their "baby", the giant 36 cylinder engine. Left to right in the front row are; Boris Osojnak, Tom Kennedy, Otto Shuey, Sam Fry, Robert McElhanny and Don Little. In the second row are Jack Carpenter, John Guibord, Clarence Wiegman, Charlotte Plankenhorn, Roscoe Kendig, Robert Dittmar and Paul M. McBride. In the third row are Hess Wertz, George Love, Bernard Shew, Edgar Demmien, Frank Murray, Leo Aldrich, Fred Jones, Waldo Bird and Jim McRoberts. This photograph was taken November 14, 1945. (Photo: Paul M. McBride)</i></p>	

This 36 cylinder engine was destined to be the largest reciprocating engine ever built. The displacement was 7,755 cubic inches. When compared to Lycoming's largest production engine in production today which displaces 720 cubic inches, it was more than 10 times larger!

This huge engine was 10 feet long, 5 feet in diameter and weighed 6,050 pounds. It produced 5,000 HP at 2,600 RPM, and the target was 7,000. It used 580 GPH of av gas at the 5,000 HP rating.

There were nine overhead camshafts which could be shifted axially for METO power in one position and cruise at the other. Two great shafts emerged for coaxial propellers, and there was a two speed gear-change box between the crankshaft and the propeller shafts.

Development of the XR-7755 began at Lycoming in Williamsport in the summer of 1943. With the end of World War II in 1945, the military no longer had a need for an engine of this size, and development of the XR-7755 stopped at the prototype stage.

During those years, Lycoming put together a team, under the leadership of VP Engineering Clarence Wiegman, to develop this super-size engine.

The engine now resides at Silver Hill of the Smithsonian Institute.

*(Special thanks to the editors of Lycorama newsletter)*

Lycoming XR-7755	
Specifications:	
Date:	1943
Displacement:	7,755 cu. in. (127 liters)
Cylinders:	36
Bore and Stroke::	6.4 in. (162 mm) x 6.8 in. (171 mm)
Weight:	6,050 lbs. (2,744 kg)
Performance:	
Horsepower:	5,000 hp (3,728 kw) at 44 in Hg.MP.
RPM:	2,600
Configuration:	
4-cycle, 4 row radial, liquid cooled, 2 speed geared dual rotation propeller drive with turbo-supercharger.	

