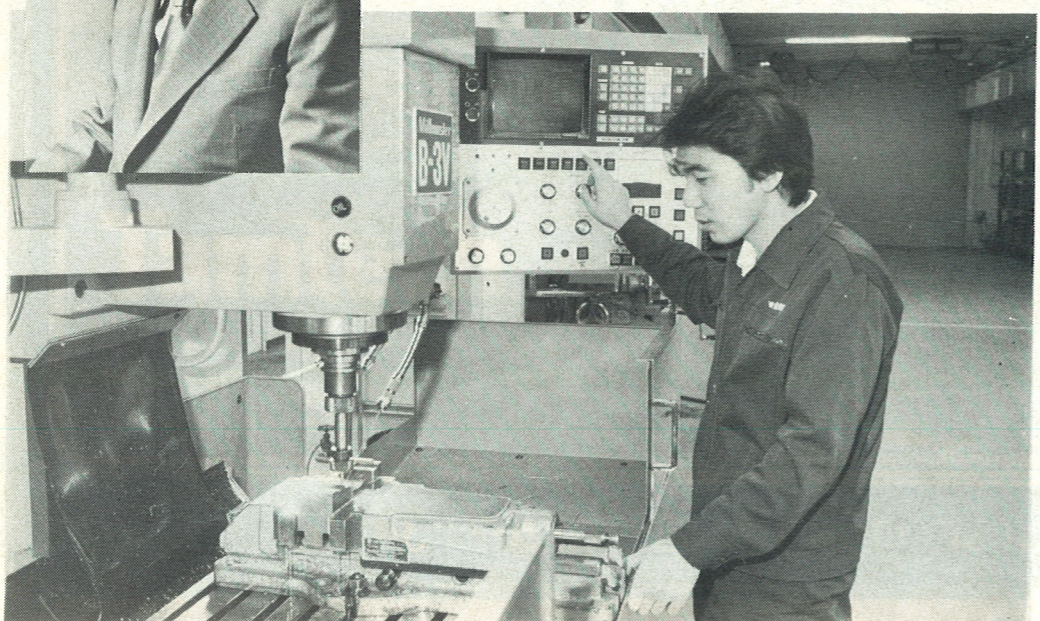
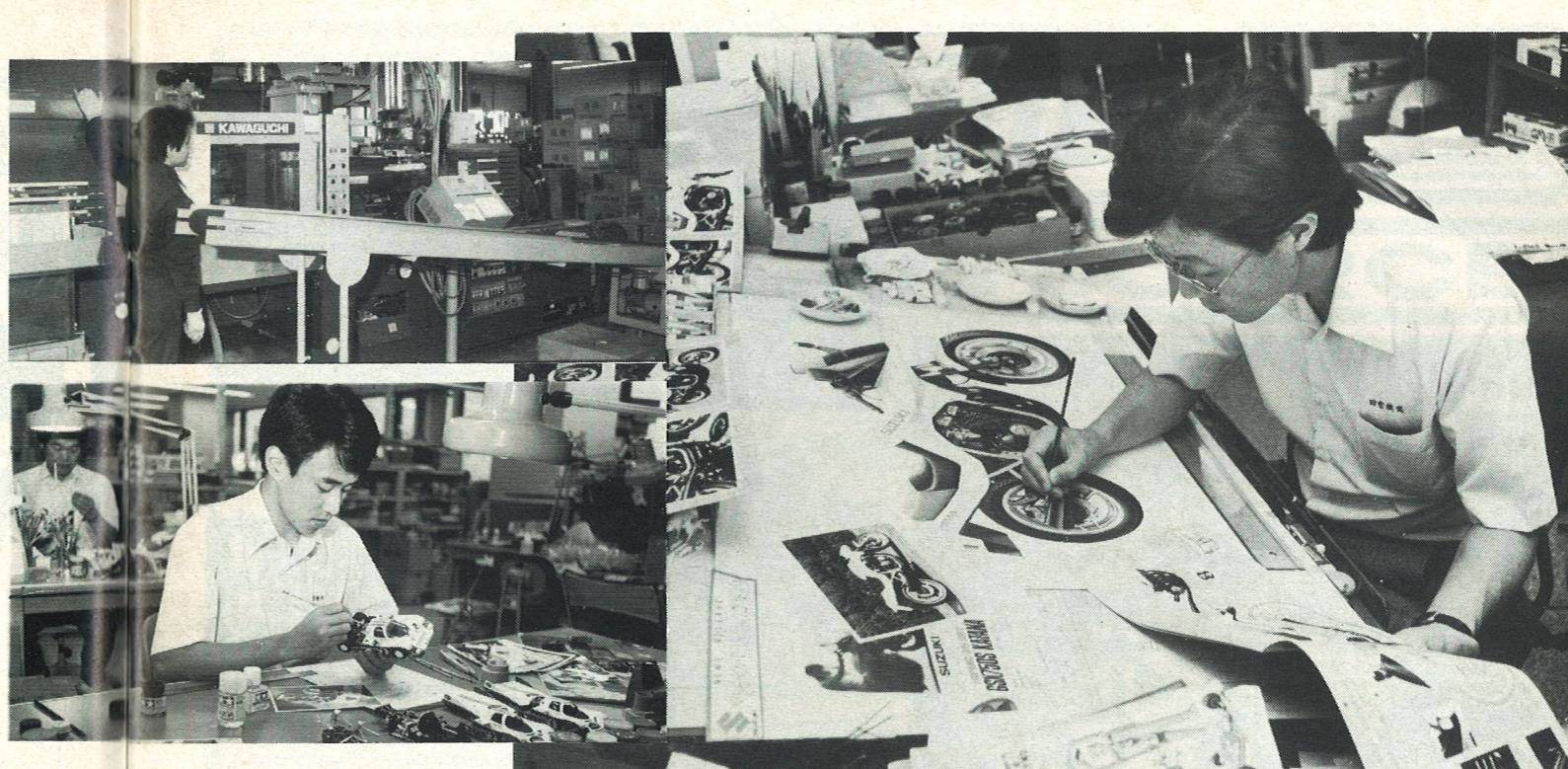


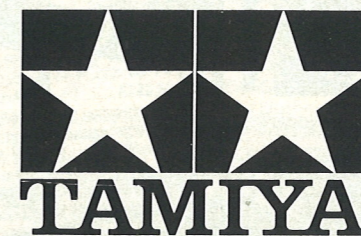
Left: Yoshio Tamiya, the man who started the Tamiya Corporation. Below: computer controlled milling operation.



Top left: Shunsaka Tamiya who prompted the company's move into plastic kit production just after 1958. Top right: Tamiya send technicians all over the world to photograph and measure suitable subjects for model production. Centre left: highly detailed construction diagrams are produced for the toolmakers. Centre right: the plans are then transferred onto computers to accurately plot the dimensions. Below right: part of Tamiya's extensive machine shop facilities. Below left: injection mould tool making. Above right: injection moulding machines produce the huge amounts of nylon and plastic parts. Right: skilled model makers are employed to check that kit assembly is correct and error-free.



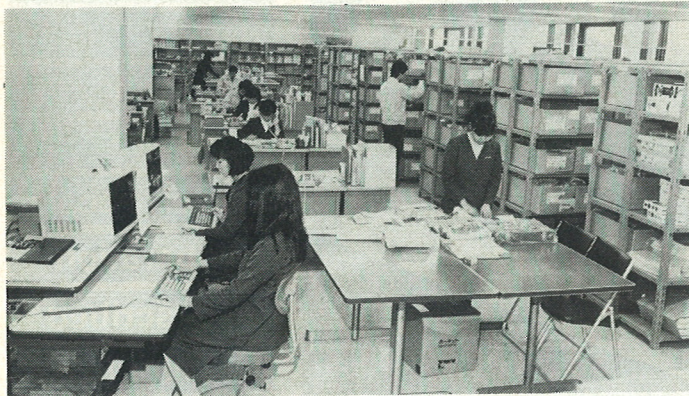
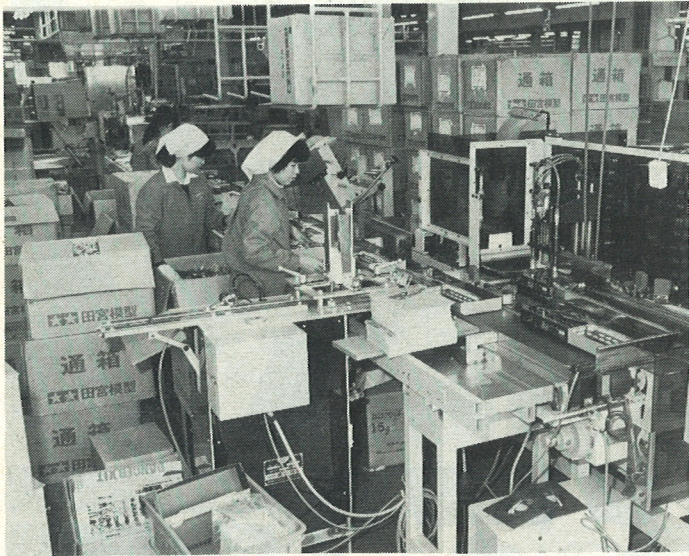
FACTORY VISIT



Further pictorial details covering Tamiya's massive scale of operation as described last month by Geoff Driver



Main picture: transporters stand outside one of the Tamiya despatch warehouses waiting to take their products all over Japan and the world. Considering the sheer volume of Tamiya's output it is surprising to realise that only 30% of their production is sent overseas. Top: box artwork is done by a team of in-house artists who produce beautiful illustrations for their packaging.



Clockwise from top right: testing and displays are a key part of launching a new product. Here the Tamtech 1/24th cars get an airing. Off-Road testing is done on Tamiya's purpose built circuit situated alongside the main factory. The main office block's entrance hall features a display of all Tamiya's products over the years. The entrance hall also contains some larger scale models as well! Various full-size vehicles have been purchased to add to the Tamiya's collection. Sales and orders despatch departments are also fully computerised. Finally all the parts come together in the packaging plant where the majority of the work is done by machines.

