



## Preface and acknowledgements

The forerunner to this study was funded by the Anglo-German Foundation for the Study of Industrial Society, and the findings were published in 1980 under the title, *Growth, innovation and employment: an Anglo-German comparison*.

In 1985, the National Economic Development Office and the Confederation of British Industry suggested to the Foundation that it would be useful to update the study and extend the analysis to countries other than Britain and Germany. The Foundation agreed to support a new project to include comparable analyses for the United States and Japan and for a fifth industry, electronics. The present book is based on the broader study and the Foundation's support is gratefully acknowledged.

To undertake research into the inner workings of manufacturing industries in several countries, one requires friends and many of them. Research of this kind goes through many stages – finding the data, assembling them for computer analysis and finally the interpretation. We had the most generous help at every stage.

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