

A Big Manufacturing 'Baby' Dedicated At Business Park

With words of welcome from visiting dignitaries, a shower of confetti and "hip, hip hurrays" from more than 180 employees, Matsushita Compressor Corporation of America dedicated its Mooresville Business Park plant.

The 373,000-square-foot facility, on a 102-acre tract inside the 500-acre park, began producing air conditioner compressors last month. But April 11 marked the ceremonial opening, complete with the traditional breaking of the "dedication ball," the Japanese equivalent of a ribbon-cutting.

Bob Amon, chairman of the South Iredell Community Development Corporation, the non-profit group that owns the Business Park, and Nancy McDonald, a MCCA machine shop employee who was also celebrating a birthday, did the honors. Amon and McDonald pulled the strings that opened the paper ball, dumping multi-colored confetti on the heads of company officials and guests gathered for the opening ceremonies.

Other portions of the ceremony included remarks from featured speaker Atsushi Murayama, president of MCCA, as well as brief comments by state and local officials.

In his address, Murayama thanked the people of Mooresville and Iredell County for a warm welcome and thanked those present for joining the company in dedicating its "new-born baby."

Murayama also explained that the company, formerly identified as MCA, had added another "C" so it would not be confused with MCA, Inc., the large movie and entertainment firm recently purchased by MCCA's parent company, Matsushita Electric Industrial Co. Ltd. of Osaka, Japan.

"Some of our members had begun calling us Little MCA," Murayama explained from the speaker's platform inside the massive plant, "but as you can see, there is nothing little about us."

Murayama also spelled out the three goals for MCCA and its workers, who he referred to not as employees, but as "members" of the MCCA team. The goals: to be the best compressor plant, to build team spirit and teamwork, and to be a good corporate citizen.

Mooresville Mayor Joe Knox, and Iredell County Board of Commissioners Chairman R.B. Sloan tied their remarks to MCCA's determination to be an asset to the overall community.

"This day will go down in the history book of our community," Knox said. "It's a great day for our area. We're thankful MCCA decided to put its plant here."

"Welcome to Iredell County," Sloan said. "You have proven to be the corporate citizen we all expected."

An illustration of MCCA's commitment to the region was announced at the ceremonies. The company, along with its sister firm — Panasonic Industrial Company of Secaucus, N.J. — donated \$150,000 to Discovery Place in Charlotte to help create "KidsPlace," a permanent 1,500-square-foot science exhibit designed especially for children.

The dedication activities concluded with a cheer. Ned Plyler, from MCCA's machine shop II area, led the company's 184 workers and the more than 100 guests in three "hip, hip hurrays."

After the ceremonies, officials and guests were treated to a catered lunch in the plant's auditorium. The lunch featured a dedication toast by Richard M. Kraft, president and chief executive officer of Matsushita Electric Corporation of America. Entertainment included a performance by a quartet of MCCA workers, who sang in English and Japanese.

After lunch, MCCA executives led group tours through the highly-automated plant as production continued. At various points, in-plant supervisors explained the manufacturing process performed at their stations.

The dedication activities were held almost exactly 16 months

after groundbreaking ceremonies for the plant. The purchase of Business Park property, and construction and tooling of the plant, represents a company investment in excess of \$120 million.

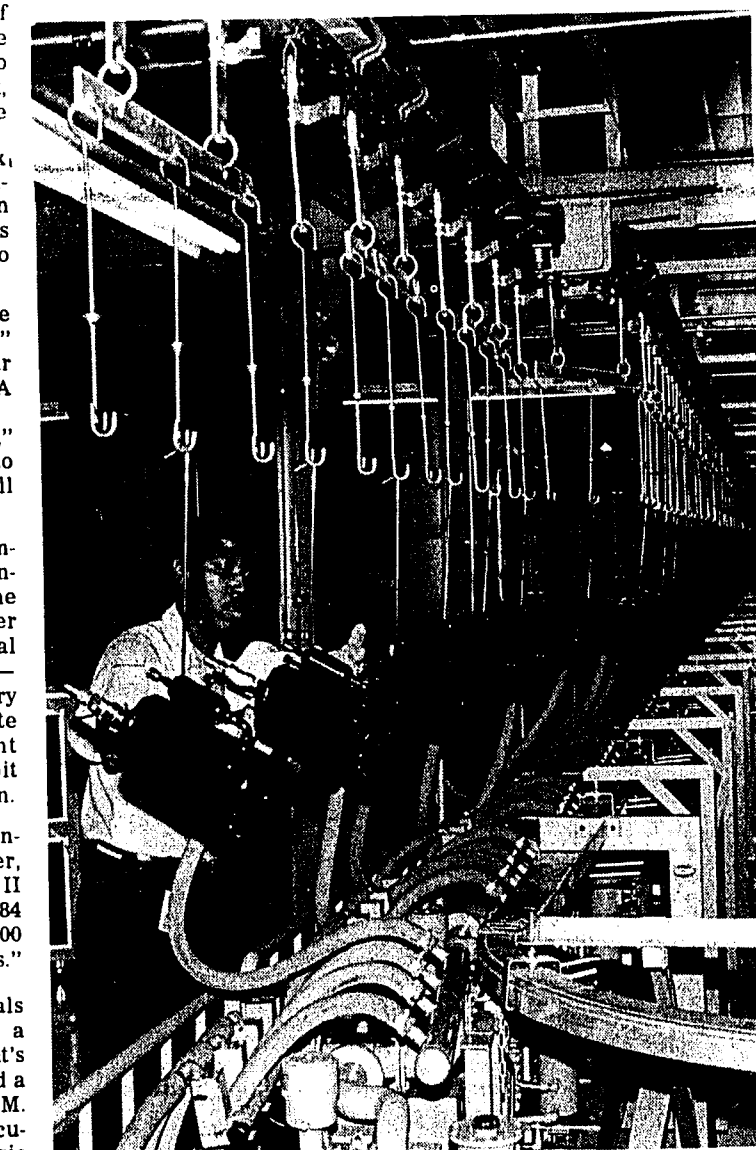
MCCA is currently producing air compressors at an annual rate of 600,000. Future plans call for

the employee total to reach 450 and production to reach 1.5 million compressors a year.

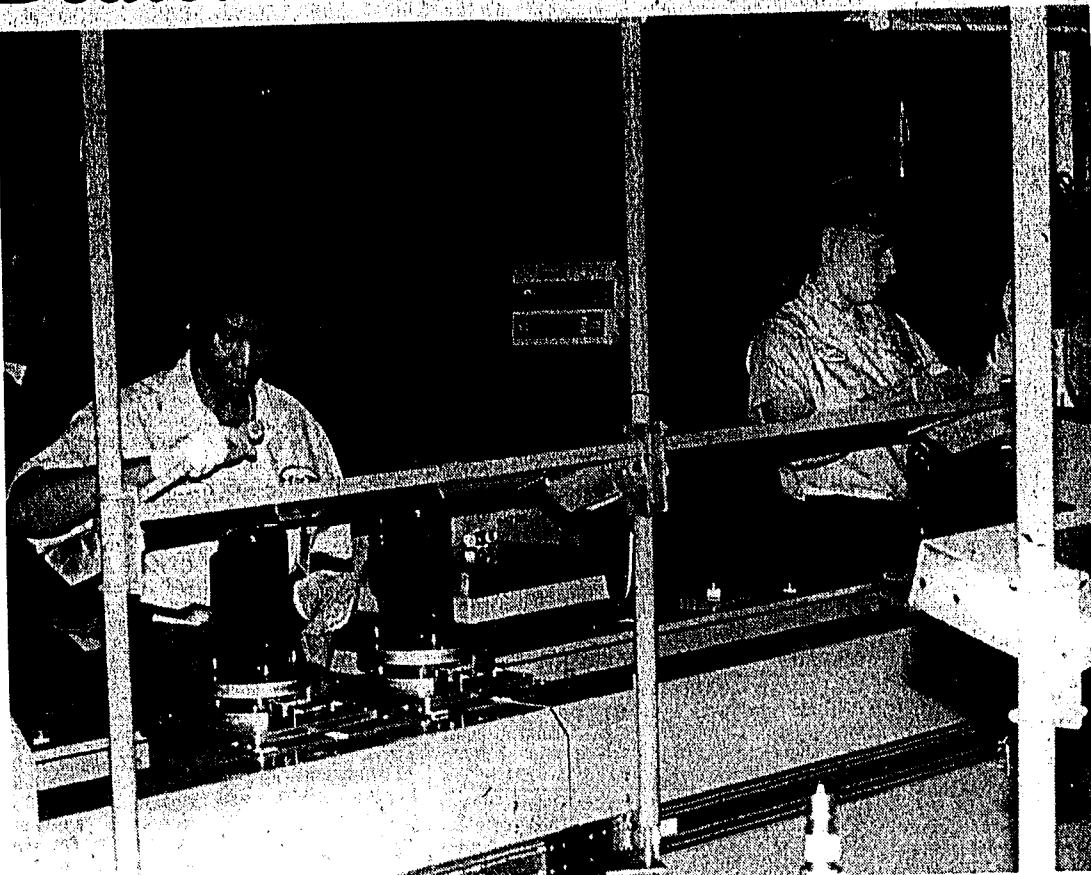
The air compressors will be marketed to all major air conditioner manufacturers in the country. In the years to come, the company plans to begin exporting locally-made products overseas.



McDonald, Amon open traditional dedication ball



Vacuum machine dries almost-ready-to-ship units



MCCA 'members' hammer down final touches on air conditioner air compressors



Murayama, second from right, accompanies group on informative plant tour

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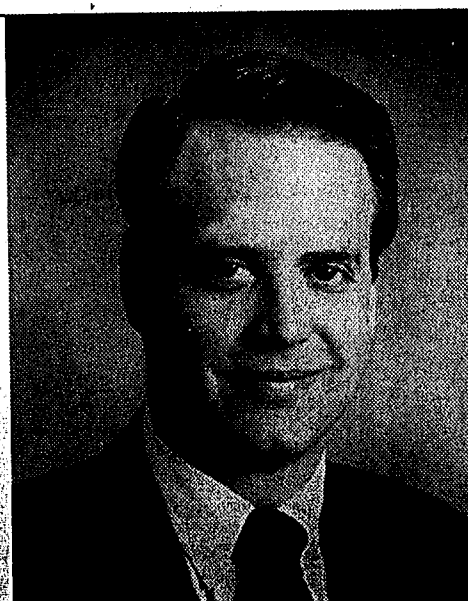
Jimmy Houston, Cavin staff member and Mike Cook, General Manager take a moment to discuss the details of a funeral service to insure that the family's wishes will be carried out during the service.

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Mark Peacock, M.D.

Board Certified - Obstetrics and Gynecology
Undergraduate: Duke University
Medical School: UNC-Chapel Hill School of Medicine
Residency: Portsmouth Naval Hospital
Memberships: American Medical Association Junior Fellow, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

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When physician Mark Peacock joined the Naval Reserves 12 years ago, he took a vow to serve our country whenever needed. And as a physician, he took a vow to provide his patients with the best possible medical care.

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Dr. Peacock has resumed his practice (Torrence Commons Ob/Gyn) and his regular office hours, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Call his office at 896-0522 today for an appointment and welcome Dr. Peacock back home.

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The family of the late Clyde White wishes to thank the staff of Lake Norman Regional Medical Center, Dr. James McNabb, Hospice of Iredell County, also friends and relatives for their love and kind deeds during the illness and death of our beloved husband and father.

Miss Catherine White and family