

MANUFACTURING

The new NSX assembly plant is the smallest of any Honda assembly facility and prides itself on having the slowest production rate: 32 cars per day are produced by the Tochigi plant's 200 associates. The associates were hand-selected; they each have a minimum of 10 years' experience and must have previously distinguished themselves in a significant manner. The central goal of this plant is to produce the highest-quality automotive product in the world.

This plant has no automated conveyor line. Rather, each car is mounted on a dolly and pushed by hand from one workstation to the next. Each team of workers is responsible for the quality of work performed at their station. The car is not passed on to the next area until the team is satisfied that their procedures have achieved the tolerances and goals required in the specifications. Each assembly station, in effect, becomes an inspection station.