Within the past 15 years, industrial geographers have become increasingly fascinated with the inter-relationships between forms of industrial organization among populations of firms and the dynamics of industrial location and local development (Dicken and Thrift 1992; Hayter and Watts 1983: 174; Scott 1986). This research has focused on how firms, large and small, relate to another, particularly in the context of industrial agglomerations or industrial districts but also with respect to more geographically dispersed inter-firm (and intra-firm) relationships. Part IV examines the geography of inter- and intra-firm relations within the context of particular 'production systems' and the implications of these relations for local development. Chapter 13 defines and discusses the basic concepts of production systems, industrial district, geographic multipliers and flexible specialization. The remaining three chapters focus on particular types of production system in particular places. Thus, chapter 14 analyses Japanese style flexible mass production systems and in particular Toyota Town, arguably the most efficient auto industrial district in the world by the 1980s. Chapter 15 examines the geographical implications of direct foreign investment for home or donor economies, using the Tokyo metropolitan area as its principal example, and more extensively for host or branch plant economies. This part of the chapter focuses on the Canadian industrial system, which in national terms may be regarded as the biggest branch plant economy in the world, and to the special economic zones in China. Chapter 16 focuses on the once great and dominating industrial districts of the world in the UK, US and Germany that have been deindustrialized and which are now seeking rejuvenation. Chapter 17 concludes the book by reflecting on production systems from a local development perspective.