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High Flyer
The Tandy high street shop underlines the company's strongest point: a single local supplier for equipment, service and advice. The company's Radio Shack name is equally well known in America.

with Model I and III programs — an unusual achievement in microcomputing. As a result, the TRS-80 models support an impressively wide range of software.

Tandy attempted to re-establish itself in the home market with the Tandy Color Computer, a 6809-based micro that shares many of the same features as the Dragon. Although never very successful in the UK, the 'CoCo' has sold well in the USA. A recent update and a mini-version called the Micro Color Computer indicate that Tandy has not given up in this area.

Perhaps the most interesting line has been portable computers. Tandy became involved by selling a series of pocket computers based on the Sharp range. More recently, a deal with another Japanese company, Kyocera, and the American Microsoft software house produced the Model 100, a book-sized battery-powered portable, complete with built-in BASIC, word processor, communications software and a diary.

By 1984, several major firms in the microcomputer industry were beginning to suffer large losses, but business is looking healthy for Tandy, with a steady stream of new products from its design centres in Fort Worth, Texas, where the company is now based, and from the subsidiary TC Electronics Corporation based in Tokyo. With the advantages of a large manufacturing division and its wide network of retailers, the Tandy Corporation seems to be uniquely placed to take advantage of whatever developments may occur in the microelectronics business, and promises to be a long-term survivor.

