The Japanese have a word for people with an obsessive interest: otaku. For a modeller visiting Tokyo, Akihabara being the otaku capital of world, is the obvious first port of call with its many model shops. On the opposite side of Tokyo, the Tobu Department Store in Ikebukuro, would appear to have little of interest to the modeller. However, on the 8th floor, from the 21st to the 26th of July it hosted the annual Tobu Tamiya 2016 model contest.

Alongside Tamiya’s display of their latest kits, there were some interesting displays of vintage kits to celebrate the company’s 70th anniversary. In the competition there was a slight bias towards AFV’s. Compared to the UK shows, aircraft were somewhat under represented. Dioramas were very popular. Figures were well represented too.

For the kit buyer, a well-stocked pop-up shop included an almost complete range of Tamiya kits alongside the company’s other product ranges.