IS MASS COMMERCE capable of producing elegant art objects? An exhibit at the Cantor Arts Center at Stanford University titled “Creativity on the Line: Design for the Corporate World, 1950-1975,” looks at how designers such as Charles and Ray Eames, Dieter Rams and Eliot Noyes navigated that question. The show, which runs through Aug. 21, includes more than 125 objects, prototypes and manuscripts. With the growth of consumerism in the postwar years, corporations looked to bring more sophisticated design to their products, says curator Wim de Wit. As the British-American inventor and engineer Bernard S. Benson is quoted as saying in 1961, “The dilemma of the designer these days is, ‘How can I have my cake and eat it?’” —Alexandra Wolfe