

## Casio to Release Digital Pianos With Three Different Historic Grand Piano Sound Profiles

Newly Developed AiR Grand Sound Source and Full-Fledged Wooden Keys

Sound Developed in Collaboration with C. Bechstein, World-Class Piano Maker



GP-500BP

Berlin, September 2, 2015 – Casio Computer Co., Ltd., announced today that it will release two new digital pianos. With the new GP-500BP and GP-300, Casio is introducing the new CELVIANO Grand Hybrid lineup, which combines the advantages of both digital and acoustic pianos while delivering an experience like that of a grand piano, including the tone, keys, and playing comfort.

The two new models will bring together all the electronic musical instrument technology that Casio has developed over 35 years. These instruments are designed to faithfully represent the tone, keyboard and playing comfort of a grand piano.

Casio has developed a new AiR\* Grand Sound Source that enables beautiful sound and rich reverberation just like a grand piano. It provides the sound profiles of three grand piano styles with a long history: the Berlin Grand, which is known for its elegant clear sound and a reverberation that gives each performance rich melodic color; the Hamburg Grand, which delivers gorgeous power and strength with plenty of string resonance; and the Vienna Grand, which provides a calm and stately sound with rich bass and beautiful tones when the keys are played softly. Of the three, the Berlin Grand sound was developed in collaboration with C. Bechstein, a piano maker with a history of over 160 years. As a result, the new models have moved beyond the realm of conventional digital pianos, demonstrating a commitment to nuanced sound creation. \*Acoustic & Intelligent Resonator

Furthermore, the GP-500BP and GP-300 feature a Grand Acoustic System that faithfully represents the sound of a grand piano as it emanates from above and below the soundboard. The system delivers three-dimensional sound with tonal elongation, expansion and depth.

Another feature is the Natural Grand Hammer Action Keyboard. It combines spruce wooden key material as used in C. Bechstein grand pianos, and a new unique action mechanism that delivers the right hammer movement, which has a big impact on the playing response of a grand piano. This allows the pianist to produce nuanced sound with a delicate touch that is essential for demonstrating the expressive power of the piano, while also enjoying reliable key response and supple playing comfort.

In addition, Casio is announcing the release of the CELVIANO AP-700, which also features the newly developed AiR Grand Sound Source.

Model	AiR Grand Sound Source	Natural Grand Hammer Action Keyboard	Grand Acoustic System	Finish
GP-500BP	•	•	•	Polished black finish
GP-300	•	•	•	Satin black finish
AP-700	•	-	-	

### Main Features of the GP-500BP, GP-300 and AP-700

#### Thoroughly refined sound and reverberation reminiscent of a grand piano

##### ■ Newly developed AiR Grand Sound Source

Multi-dimensional Morphing smoothly transforms sound waves, and realizes tonal changes based on both time passage and intensity. Even during a gradual crescendo from pianissimo to fortissimo, the technology allows even and natural tonal changes.

Moreover, the String Resonance System, designed to deliver the string resonance of a grand piano, controls the amount and combination of resonance according to the playing situation. By producing reverberation that fits each of the 88 keys, the technology enables natural and comfortable performance.

By combining these two technologies, the new models each offer the sounds of three grand piano styles. The Berlin Grand is known for its elegant clear sound and reverberation that gives each performance rich melodic color, while the Hamburg Grand delivers gorgeous power and strength with a lot of string resonance. The Vienna Grand provides calm bass with a solid feeling along with soft and beautiful sound.

##### ■ Natural Grand Hammer Action Keyboard enables even more delicate expression (GP-500BP and GP-300)

The GP-500BP and GP-300 feature keys made from high-quality spruce, which is also used in grand piano keyboards. The keys are also finished in the same way as on a grand piano. Since this makes them more familiar to the pianist, fingers are less likely to slip or fatigue. The new models also boast a new unique action mechanism that delivers the right hammer movement, which has a big impact on the playing response of a grand piano. The mechanism conveys delicate finger nuances more accurately, and enables dynamic touch to translate directly into expressive power.

##### ■ Grand Acoustic System generates a space of three-dimensional sound (GP-500BP and GP-300)

Casio has developed a Grand Acoustic System that faithfully represents the sound of a grand piano as it emanates from above and below the soundboard. Through careful positioning of six speakers and the creation of sound pathways, the system delivers three-dimensional sound with tonal elongation, expansion and depth.

#### Special playing experience for a digital piano

##### ■ Scene feature enables pieces to be played with the optimal sound (GP-500BP)

The Scene feature consists of 15 preset types for different composers such as Chopin and Liszt, as well as musical genres such as jazz and easy listening. The presets combine the best optimal tones, reverberation, and effects for the type of piece being played. Users can also create and save their own presets.

- Concert Play offers an experience like playing with an orchestra  
The spectacular sound of a live orchestra is recorded in a high-quality digital format. By playing the piano together with the recorded orchestra, users can enjoy the feeling of performing at an orchestral concert. The technology can also be used in practice, as it allows the tempo to be slowed, and also features rewind, fast forward, and repeat playback of A-B sections.
- Hall Simulator provides the experience of performing in a special venue such as a concert hall  
The Hall Simulator allows the pianist to enjoy the immersive sound found in different types of venues such as an Amsterdam church, or a classical concert hall in Berlin. Also, the GP-500BP and GP-300 enables users to switch between the Player's Position, which provides a sense of playing a real grand piano, and three types of Listener's Positions, which gives the pianist the effect of listening to the performance from the audience.



GP-500BP



GP-300



AP-700

<C.BECHSTEIN>

Since Carl Bechstein founded the Pianoforte production facility in Berlin in 1853, the name Bechstein has stood for the highest class of upright and grand pianos. C. Bechstein pianos have been appreciated by many famous composers and artists for their finest quality of sound and touch for many years. In the 21st century, C. Bechstein is still recognized as one of the world's leading piano manufacturers.

< Casio Computer Co., Ltd.>

Casio Computer Co., Ltd. is one of the world's leading manufacturers of consumer electronics products and business equipment solutions. Since its establishment in 1957, Casio has strived to realize its corporate creed of "creativity and contribution" through the introduction of innovative and imaginative products. News and product information from Casio is available at

[www.grand-hybrid.com](http://www.grand-hybrid.com)

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Extensive press material is available at:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ysbp4322q8qxd2p/AACqmlileQKD4SI832mPVcSxa?dl=0>

## Specifications

Model	GP-500BP	GP-300	AP-700
Finish	Polished black finish	Black wood tone finish	
Keyboard	Number of Sensors	3	
	Hammer Action	Natural Grand Hammer Action	Scaled Hammer Action Keyboard II
	Key Surface Finish	Same finish as used for popular grand pianos	Simulated ebony and ivory keys
	Touch Sensitivity	5 sensitivity levels, off	3 sensitivity levels, off
Sound Source		AiR (Acoustic & intelligent Resonator) Grand Sound Source	
Max. Polyphony		256	
Number of Built-in Tones		35	26
Number of Direct Tone Select buttons		3	8
Duet Mode/Layer/Split/Octave Shift		•	
Tones	Acoustic Simulator	Hammer Response	• (OFF,10 Levels)
		Damper Resonance	• (OFF,10 Levels)
		String Resonance	• (OFF,10 Levels)
		Aliquot Resonance	• (OFF,10 Levels) -
		Open String Resonance	• (OFF,10 Levels) -
		Lid Simulator	• (4 Levels)
		Key Off Simulator	•
		Damper Noise	• (OFF,10 Levels)
		Pedal Action Noise	• (OFF,10 Levels) -
		Key On Action Noise	• (OFF,10 Levels) -
		Key Off Action Noise	• (OFF,10 Levels) -
Digital Effects	Hall Simulator	OFF, 12 types x 4 positions	OFF, 6 types x 4 positions
	Chorus	OFF, 4 types	
	Brilliance	-3~0~3	
	DSP	• (Preset for some tones)	
Key Transpose		2 octaves (-12 semitones ~ 0 ~ +12 semitones)	
Tuning Control		A4=415.5Hz ~ 440.0Hz ~ 465.9Hz	
Scale Function		17	
Music Library	Number of Preset Songs	60	
	User Songs	10	
	Capacity for User Songs	Approx. 900KB (Up to approx. 90KB/song)	
Concert Play		15 Songs	
Demo Songs		6 (Tone Demo)	
Metronome		•	
Tempo Setting		20~255BPM	
Scene		• (15 Presets + 10 user settings)	-
MIDI Recorder		Yes (Real Time Rec, 5000 notes)	
Audio Recording/Playback		Max. 99 songs, approximately 25 min./song (to USB flash drive, 44.1 kHz Stereo WAV format)	
Operation Lock		•	
Pedals		3 built-in pedals (damper, soft, sostenuto)	
Half-Damper Pedal Operation		• (Continuous)	
Half Pedal Position		-2~0~2	
Display		Full-dot LCD with backlight	
Terminals	USB port (to Host)	•	

	USB flash drive port	
	MIDI IN/OUT	
	PHONES/OUTPUT	2 (Stereo standard jack)
	LINE IN/LINE OUT	2 (L/mono, R, standard jack)
Top Board Open/Close		•
Grand Acoustic System	•	-
Headphone Mode		•
Volume Sync EQ		•
Speakers	16cm x 2 + (10cm+5cm) x 2 3-Way, 6 Speakers	12cm x 4, 5cm x 2 2-Way, 6 Speakers
Amplifiers	30W x 2 + 20W x 2	30W + 30W
Power Supply	AC Adapter: AD-E24500LW	
Auto Power Off		•
Included Accessories	Score Stand / Score Book / AC Adapter (AD-E24500LW) Headphone Hook	
Size(without score stand)	1,434x489x963mm	1,377x427x911mm
Weight	77.5kg	48.0kg

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