

CASIO to Release G-SHOCK MR-G Finished in *Gassan* Tradition of Japanese Swordsmiths

Limited Edition Model Evoking the Traditional Strength and Aesthetics of Japan



MRG-G2000GA

Basel, March 20, 2019 — Casio Computer Co., Ltd. announced today the release of a new addition to the MR-G Series, the flagship series of the G-SHOCK brand of shock-resistant watches. The MRG-G2000GA takes its inspiration from the traditional Japanese sword — known for bringing together the timeless strength and aesthetic sensibilities of Japan. It is hand-finished by a master craftsman in the world-renowned *Gassan* tradition of Japanese swordsmiths. A limited edition of just 300 of these watches will be released worldwide.

The MRG-G2000GA is inspired by the strength and refinement of Japanese swords, which have much in common with the toughness and functional sophistication of the MR-G Series. The watch incorporates design elements inspired by Japanese swords — from the *yasuri-me* (rasp marks) on the *nakago* (tang) to the crystal formation of the *hamon* (temper line) and the *kissaki* (blade tip).

The watchband of the MRG-G2000GA takes its design cue from the tang of a Japanese sword, which is inside the hilt. In Japanese swords, rasp marks are applied to the tang to keep it from slipping out of the hilt. These rasp marks vary in pattern depending on the school of swordmaking or each swordsmith. The rasp marks are a critical element that is particular to the swordmaker. The centre band of the MRG-G2000GA is finished in a pattern modelled after the file mark pattern employed in the renowned *Gassan* tradition of swordsmiths. The pattern is applied by hand to each link by Sadanobu Gassan, who is in line to succeed the 800-year-old *Gassan* tradition. The second link in the band is also inscribed with the kanji character 鍛, from the saying *tanto hitosuji* (“a singular dedication to forging”) that is espoused by the *Gassan* tradition.

The finish of the MRG-G2000GA reflects a fine attention to the smallest details. The case is made from recrystallised titanium, the sparkling appearance of which evokes the crystal formation of the temper line on the blade of Japanese swords. An Arc Ion Plating (AIP®)^{*1} treatment is then applied in the *Koki-murasaki* (deep purple) that is traditionally associated with nobility in Japan. The bezel is made from COBARION®^{*2} and bevelled in a manner inspired by the blade tip of a Japanese sword.

The MRG-G2000GA features time adjustment using radio wave time-calibration signals, GPS satellite signals, and Bluetooth® to ensure accurate time reflecting time zone changes around the world and daylight savings time. The MRG-G2000GA brings together innovative technology with Japanese aesthetics.

Swordsmith Sadanobu Gassan

Born in Nara Prefecture in 1979. Born into the famous Gassan family of swordsmiths, Sadanobu Gassan was exposed to the world of swordmaking from a young age. In 1998, he began training with his father, Sadatoshi Gassan. In 2006, he was recognized as a swordsmith by the Japanese Agency for Cultural Affairs. Since that time, he has continued to challenge himself in new areas of craftsmanship that carry forth the traditions of the past, and has won numerous prizes and accolades in various competitions. As the sixth in the Gassan line from Osaka, he carries the burden of the next generation of Japanese swords. Sadanobu Gassan currently serves as a director for the All Japan Swordsmith Association.

^{*1} Arc Ion Plating, or AIP®, is a type of ion plating (IP) that uses high energy to vaporize coating materials, causing a hard film with high adhesive properties to form on the metal's surface. AIP provides one of the hardest IP coatings. AIP is a registered trademark of Kobe Steel, Inc.

^{*2} COBARION® is two times harder than stainless steel and is said to rival platinum in shine. COBARION is a registered trademark of the Iwate Industry Promotion Center and is manufactured exclusively by Eiwa Co., Ltd.

Specifications

Construction		Shock-resistant
Water Resistance		20 bar
Magnetic Resistance		ISO 764-compliant magnetic resistance
GPS Signal Frequency		1575.42 MHz
Radio Frequency		77.5 kHz (DCF77: Germany); 60 kHz (MSF: UK); 60 kHz (WWVB: USA); 40 kHz (JJY: Fukushima, Japan) / 60 kHz (JJY: Kyushu, Japan); 68.5 kHz (BPC: China)
GPS Signal Reception		Time-calibration (auto, * manual); acquisition of position information (manual) * GPS signals are received automatically when the watch recognises they are available in the area.
Radio Wave Reception		Automatic reception up to six times a day (except for use in China: up to five times a day)
Communication Specifications	Communication Standard	Bluetooth® low energy
	Signal Range	Up to 2m (may differ depending on surrounding)

	conditions)
World Time	39 cities (39 time zones*, daylight saving on/off) and Coordinated Universal Time: auto summer time (DST) switching * May be updated when connected to a smartphone.
Stopwatch	1/1-second stopwatch; measuring capacity: 24 minutes; elapsed time
Countdown Timer	Measuring unit: 1 second (maximum 24 hours)
Alarm	1 independent daily alarm
Other Functions	Smartphone Link functions (world time: over 300 cities, automatic time adjustment, easy watch setting); automatic hand correction (hour, minute and second hand); full auto-calendar; 12/24-hour format; battery level indicator; LED light (super illuminator and afterglow)
Power Source	Tough Solar power system (solar-charging system)
Continuous Operation	About 23 months with the power-saving function* ON after full charge *Power-saving after a certain period in a dark location
Size of Case	54.7 × 49.8 × 16.9 mm
Total Weight	Approx. 152g

* The Bluetooth® word mark and logos are registered trademarks owned by Bluetooth SIG, Inc. and any use of such marks by Casio Computer Co., Ltd. is under license.

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