

Sony launches camera phone with add-on lenses (Update)

September 4 2013



The new Sony Xperia Z1 smartphone with an attachable camera for smartphones is displayed at an event ahead of the IFA, one of the world's largest trade fairs for consumer electronics and electrical home appliances in Berlin, Wednesday, Sept. 4, 2013. IFA will take place on the Berlin Exhibition Grounds from Sept. 6 to Sept. 11, 2013. (AP Photo/Markus Schreiber)

Sony Mobile unveiled a new addition to its Xperia smartphone lineup Wednesday: a device that sports a massive 20.7-megapixel camera and is capable of attaching better lenses.

The Xperia Z1, presented in Berlin two days before the annual IFA consumer electronics show there, is Sony's attempt to leapfrog rivals such as Nokia and Samsung in the race for the phone with the best camera.

Its standout features are a high-resolution lens built into the camera, and the option of controlling detachable lenses from the phone's 5-inch screen.

According to Sony, the lenses can also be used with other Android phones and even Apple's iPhone.

The Z1's camera functions are further supported by a large image sensor and dedicated apps that allow users to stream video directly onto their Facebook page, store images online and search for information about whatever their viewfinder is pointing at.

The phone, previously codenamed Honami, comes with 2.2 gigahertz processor and a waterproof aluminum case.



Kazuo Hirai, President and CEO of Sony presents the new Sony Xperia Z1

smartphone and an attachable camera for smartphones at an event ahead of the IFA, one of the world's largest trade fairs for consumer electronics and electrical home appliances in Berlin, Wednesday, Sept. 4, 2013. IFA will take place on the Berlin Exhibition Grounds from Sept. 6 to Sept. 11, 2013. (AP Photo/Markus Schreiber)



Kazuo Hirai, President and CEO of Sony presents the new Sony Xperia Z1 smartphone and an attachable lens style camera for smartphones on an event ahead of the IFA, one of the world's largest trade fairs for consumer electronics and electrical home appliances in Berlin, Wednesday, Sept. 4, 2013. IFA will take place on the Berlin Exhibition Grounds from Sept. 6 to Sept. 11, 2013. (AP Photo/Markus Schreiber)

Sony said the Z1 will go on sale later this month.

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