

Casio marries ink stamps and technology

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An employee of Japan's electronics maker Casio Computer displays a stamp maker "Pomrie" at the company's headquarters in Tokyo on October 11, 2013

Japan's Casio Computer has found a way to marry Japan's love of ink stamps with its technological wizardry in the form of a desk-top device.

The "pomrie" gadget uses photographs taken on a smartphone or saved on a computer and makes them into a stamp that will allow users to repeatedly recreate versions of their favourite scenes using up to eight



colours at a time.

Casio hopes the device, which melts a negative image onto a sponge material, leaving only the unmelted parts able to soak up ink, will prove popular in Japan, where <u>stamps</u> are still very common.

In addition to the personal seals widely used for identification in lieu of a signature, all Japanese companies have official stamps which must be used on formal documents.

Stamps with cartoon characters, or which have a slogan or a logo, are also immensely popular among children, and sometimes used by teachers as a reward system.

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