

Casio's flagship keyboard CT-X series launched in Bangladesh

Casio, the leading musical instruments company, launched a new CT-X Series of portable keyboards in Bangladesh. With new AiX Sound Source and advanced specifications for beginners to performers and players. This keyboard is aimed at musicians who already know their favourite sounds and are looking for a simple plug-and-play interface.

The new CT-X series is available in four models CT-X700, CT-X8000IN, CT-X9000IN & CT-X870IN. It is equipped with AiX Sound Source which allows the keyboard to emit the sound of acoustic instruments such as guitars, drums, basses, brass, wind



instruments, string ensembles and more. The CT-X series provides high-performance Digital Signal Processor (DSP) effects that combine various algorithms to realise the perfect effect for each instrument sound.

The CT-X700 and CT-X870IN's stunning instrument tones are perfect for beginners or advanced players

that need an affordable and portable instrument while the CT-X8000IN and CT-X9000IN provide additional rhythms, tones, DSP editing features, USB drive for music playback, phrase pads, expression pedal inputs as well as more powerful speaker systems suitable for all grade music examination & powerful performance.

The CT-X8000IN has a 6W+6W speaker system and the CT-X9000IN has an incredible 15W+15W high-output amplifier delivering sound output for rehearsal or performance applications. For an everlasting experience, the new CT-X series comes with a one year warranty.

Facebook hired firm to run smear campaigns against TikTok, report suggests

Facebook's owner Meta has hired a consulting firm to carry out a US campaign denigrating its fierce rival TikTok, according to a Washington Post report Wednesday partially confirmed by AFP.

The campaign reportedly includes placing letters in major US news outlets and promoting negative stories about TikTok, allegedly using the type of tough tactics familiar to Washington politics.

Meta, which shed hundreds of billions in value earlier this year due to doubts about its future, is in a pitched fight against the video-sharing platform popular with young social media fans.

"We believe all platforms, including TikTok, should face a level of scrutiny consistent with their growing success," Meta told AFP in a one-line statement in response to the article.

The consulting firm, Targeted Victory, confirmed having worked for Meta and did not deny having put forward negative information about

TikTok.

"We're proud of the work we've done to highlight the dangers of TikTok," the firm's CEO Zac Moffatt tweeted.

Employees at Targeted Victory worked to undermine TikTok, which is owned by Chinese



company ByteDance, by promoting an effort to have it portrayed as a danger to American children, the Post reported, citing the firm's internal emails.

The Post quoted one message saying Targeted Victory needed to "get the message out that while Meta is the

current punching bag, TikTok is the real threat, especially as a foreign-owned app that is #1 in sharing data that young teens are using." One effort reportedly included getting parents to sign on to letters raising concerns that were submitted to US newspapers, some of which published them.

Targeted Victory also alerted elected officials and journalists to alleged trends on TikTok that encouraged students to vandalize their school premises, known as "devious licks" or the "slap a teacher" challenge.

The "challenge" urging young users to attack teachers did not start on TikTok, but on Facebook, according to an investigation by the "Reply All" podcast, with the investigator was unable to find any videos on this topic on TikTok.

"We are deeply concerned that the stoking of local media reports on alleged trends that have not been found on the platform could cause real-world harm," TikTok told AFP in a statement.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Making it work

It's the first week of Ramadan, and our glucose levels remain relatively low throughout the day. Getting out of the house feels particularly daunting, especially with the heat and the unbearable traffic that we must get through. Thank heavens for the weekend. *insert grateful emoji*

We shine the light on the buzzing car scene in Dhaka as we feature two riveting car meet and greets - one for the vintage lovers and the other for the underground petrolheads.

Air purifiers also get our attention as Dhaka's air has become the most polluted in the world. So better get one of these before they get pricier. Also, if you can relate to some of the pointers from the job switching piece, then the writing's on the wall.

That's a wrap.

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Meta provided user data to hackers who forged requests: reports

Meta, Facebook's parent company, provided user information to hackers who pretended to be law enforcement officials last year, a company source mentioned recently.

Imposters were able to get details like physical addresses or phone numbers in response to falsified "emergency data requests," which can slip past privacy barriers, said the source who requested anonymity due to the sensitivity of the matter.

Criminal hackers have been compromising email accounts or websites tied to police or government and claiming they can't wait for a judge's order for information because it's an "urgent matter

of life and death," cyber expert Brian Krebs wrote recently.

Bloomberg news agency, which originally reported Meta being targeted, also reported that Apple had provided customer data in response to forged data requests.

Apple and Meta did not officially confirm the incidents but provided statements citing their policies in handling information demands.

When US law enforcement officials want data on a social media account's owner or an associated cell phone number, they must submit an official court-ordered warrant or subpoena, Krebs wrote.

But in urgent cases authorities can

make an "emergency data request," which "largely bypasses any official review and does not require the requestor to supply any court-approved documents," he added.

Meta, in a statement, said the firm reviews every data request for "legal sufficiency" and uses "advanced systems and processes" to validate law enforcement requests and detect abuse.

"We block known compromised accounts from making requests and work with law enforcement to respond to incidents involving suspected fraudulent requests, as we have done in this case," the statement added.

Apple noted its guidelines, which say that in the case of an emergency

application "a supervisor for the government or law enforcement agent who submitted the... request may be contacted and asked to confirm to Apple that the emergency request was legitimate."

Krebs noted that the lack of a unitary, national system for these types of requests is one of the key problems associated with them, as companies end up deciding how to deal with them.

"To make matters more complicated, there are tens of thousands of police jurisdictions around the world - including roughly 18,000 in the United States alone - and all it takes for hackers to succeed is illicit access to a single police email account," he wrote.