

Responsibilities to Suppliers

Casio procures various materials from a large number of suppliers in and outside Japan. In order to develop long-term business relationships based on its Procurement Policies, Casio is working to strengthen CSR activities across its entire supply chain, while improving measures for proper transactions.

Socially responsible procurement at Casio

Casio has established Procurement Policies in order to execute its social responsibility to conduct fair and equitable transactions throughout the supply chain. The policies cover matters including legal compliance, respecting human rights, labor, safety, and health, as well as environmental protection such as biodiversity preservation and risk control of chemical contents and information security. Casio constantly improves its socially responsible procurement by obtaining the understanding and support of suppliers for the policies and building strong partnerships.

Procurement Policies

Casio aims to fulfill its social responsibilities, including compliance with relevant laws and social norms, and protection of the environment, through fair and equitable transactions throughout the supply chain by strengthening partnership with suppliers.

1. Fair and equitable transactions

Casio carries out fair and equitable transactions by providing equal opportunities to all suppliers (and candidates) in and outside Japan in accordance with its internally established procedures.

2. Compliance with laws and social norms

Casio's procurement activities comply with all relevant laws, social norms, standards and treaties worldwide, including the protection of human rights, the prohibition of child labor, forced labor and discrimination, and avoiding the use of conflict minerals, and respect for freedom of association, the right to associate, and the right to collective bargaining, as well as ensure that absolutely no contact is made with organized criminal elements. Therefore, Casio requires its suppliers to observe the same legal and social requirements.

3. Environmental protection

Casio helps to protect the global environment through environmentally friendly procurement, which is based on the Casio Environmental Vision and Casio's Environmental Declaration, in cooperation with suppliers.

4. Strengthening partnership with suppliers

Casio builds up relationship of trust with its suppliers through reciprocal efforts, such as merging and complementing mutual technological development abilities, supply chain cooperation, compliance with laws and social norms and protection of the global environment, which will benefit both parties.

5. Policies on supplier selection and transaction continuation

Casio initiates and continues transactions with suppliers based on comprehensive evaluation criteria, which include compliance with laws and social norms, environmental protection, proper information security, respect for intellectual property, sound and stable corporate management, superior technological development ability, right price and quality, stable supply capabilities and electronic transaction systems.

6. Securing right price and quality

Casio endeavors to secure right price and quality in order to provide its customers with stable supply of optimal products, which ensures that Casio gains the full confidence of customers around the world.

7. Prohibition of personal-interest relationships

Casio does not allow any employees to have personal-interest relationships with any suppliers.

Fulfilling social responsibilities together with suppliers

In order to ensure compliance with the Procurement Policies together with its suppliers, Casio has established the Supplier Guidelines (available at link below). All of Casio's suppliers in Japan and elsewhere have agreed to these guidelines to help Casio fulfill its social responsibilities.

Casio is also managing its supply chain more successfully by introducing a regular monitoring system that ensures that these guidelines are properly fulfilled.

[Supplier Guidelines](#)

Disseminating supplier guidelines

Casio carries out the majority of its production outside Japan at Casio plants and manufacturing subcontractors (electronic manufacturing services). Every year, Casio holds briefings on its Procurement Policies in Southern China.

Initially, these briefings simply involved Casio explaining its business policies to suppliers and asking them to undertake initiatives. Since fiscal 2010, however, Casio has been using these briefings as an opportunity for two-way communication. Suppliers are invited to participate actively, for instance by asking those with exemplary CSR initiatives to present examples of their efforts to promote and improve CSR. This enables the sharing of useful case studies and know-how for addressing CSR. By working collaboratively with its suppliers in this way, Casio is continually improving the level of CSR performance in its supply chain.

The most recent meeting was attended by the manager of Casio's CSR Promotion Office, who gave a presentation on human rights issues. He explained the need for major distributors outside Japan to regularly conduct CSR audits at Casio overseas production sites. The distributors must keep a close watch on response to human rights issues on the production lines and in the supply chain. He also explained the potential for serious business and credit risk arising from any improper protection of worker rights, and presented specific examples of human rights issues to be looked at in the supply chain. The aim was to promote thorough understanding of the importance of taking steps to protect human rights.

In June 2009, Casio revised the Basic Business Agreement it signs with suppliers in Japan. Clauses were added to require measures such as legal compliance, respect for human rights, and environmental protection. The new agreement is being rolled out steadily.



Briefing on Procurement Policies



Award ceremony at the Procurement Policies briefing



Presentation on human rights issues by Noriaki Kimura, Manager of the CSR Promotion Office

Comprehensive management of CSR performance

In fiscal 2008, Casio started conducting a questionnaire survey* of principal suppliers in Japan on CSR performance in order to confirm the status of CSR procurement. In fiscal 2010, the survey was expanded to include suppliers in China and Thailand.

Based on the fiscal 2012 survey results and changes in society's expectations, the questionnaire for suppliers was revised in fiscal 2013. Overlapping questions were eliminated and a new theme, policies for avoiding conflict minerals, was added.

The fiscal 2017 questionnaire was sent to 238 companies in Japan, and the response rate was 100%, clearly indicating suppliers' high level of interest in CSR fulfillment. In China and Thailand, responses were received from 317 companies, also for a response rate of 100%. Again, the great concern for CSR fulfillment among suppliers is clear. Casio compiles and analyses the response data, and shares the results with suppliers, along with Casio's approach to CSR procurement.

Since fiscal 2011, Casio has been conducting onsite audits of major suppliers in China and Thailand with local staff members of the CSR promotion projects launched at sites in those countries. In fiscal 2012, the company started planning onsite inspections performed mainly by local Casio staff, and the number of visits is increasing.

In fiscal 2017, Casio conducted onsite inspections at 7 companies in China. In Thailand, it conducted onsite inspections at 6 companies. Even with the suspension in inspections caused by the flooding, it has cumulatively covered almost all suppliers in Thailand. Going forward, Casio will continue onsite inspections with the aim of instilling commitment to CSR throughout the supply chain.

Additionally, Casio underwent CSR-related audits at 3 of its production sites at the request of 3 major distribution customers.

* The questionnaire was prepared in accordance with a Supplier Checklist for CSR Procurement based upon the Guidebook for Supply Chain Implementation of CSR Procurement published by the Japan Electronics and Information Technology Industries Association (JEITA). It covered: (1) human rights and labor conditions; (2) health and safety; (3) the environment; (4) fair transactions and ethics; (5) quality and consumer safety; (6) information security; and (7) social contribution.

[A list of the items included in each category of the questionnaire is available here.](#) (PDF / 10.8KB)

Questionnaire results

Questionnaire given to a total of 537 suppliers

Responses to all questions received from 537 suppliers (100% response rate)

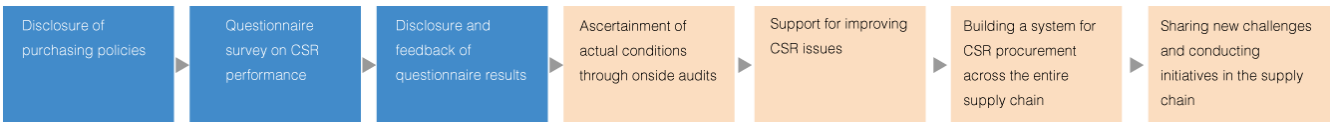
Status of responses by CSR category

Items	Score
0 Overall Promotion of Corporate Social Responsibility	4.1
I Human Rights and Labor	4.6
II Occupational Health and Safety	4.6
III Environment	4.6
IV Fair Trading	4.5
V Product Quality and Safety	4.7
VI Information Security	4.5
VII Contribution to Society	4.0
Total	4.5

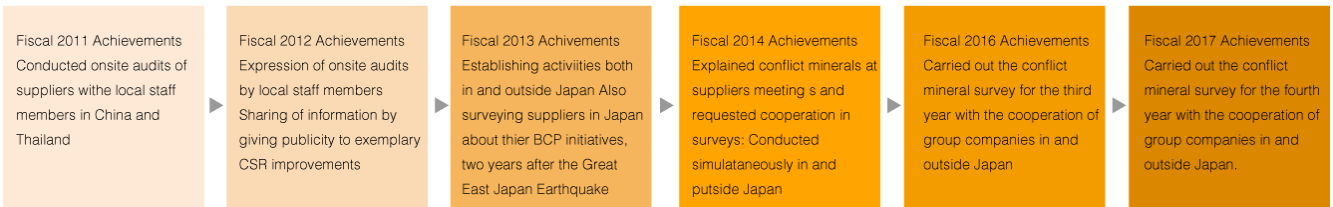
Status of responses by CSR category



Improving CSR across the supply chain



Growing together with suppliers



Supplier message

Ryosan will continue to develop activities not only from an economic perspective but also with a strong awareness of social and environmental issues. To that end, we believe that it is important for each and every employee to strive to maintain a high awareness of these issues while carrying out their daily work. This is based on the concept that the corporation is a public institution, which is the foundation of our CSR activities.

Ryosan is more than a trading company; it is a coordinator of electronic systems. While following technological trends, we will provide value to society by serving as the main organization in ensuring the optimal pairing of electronics technology with people's needs.

We support Casio's procurement policy and will continue to take the necessary action as a strong partner of Casio.



Saito Kazuhiro, Executive Officer, Director of the East Japan 2nd Marketing and Sales Headquarters, and General Manager of the Nishitama Sales Branch, Ryosan Company, Limited

Avoiding any use of conflict minerals

Some minerals, such as tin, tantalum, tungsten, and gold, produced in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and neighboring African countries have become a source of funding for armed groups and anti-government forces carrying out atrocities. They are called conflict minerals because of their potential to promote conflict, human rights violations, and environmental destruction.

Wanting no part in human rights violations and environmental destruction, Casio's stance is to completely avoid the use of conflict minerals. The group will continue its efforts to avoid the use of such minerals by working closely with suppliers.

In January 2013, Casio revised its Procurement Policies and Supplier Guidelines, adding a ban on the use of conflict minerals. A question about policies to avoid the use of conflict minerals was also added to the CSR questionnaire sent to suppliers in Japan.

In fiscal 2014, Casio group companies surveyed suppliers worldwide about the use of conflict minerals, using the EICC & GeSI* Conflict Minerals Reporting Template. Worldwide, 646 responses were received in fiscal 2017. The response rate was 100% in fiscal 2017 (96% in fiscal 2016).

In the first year of the survey, many companies reported conflict mineral use as "unknown." In the second year, there was a noticeable shift towards "yes" or "no" responses, rather than "unknown." There are inherent difficulties in conflict mineral investigation, as strict survey implementation requires going all the way back up the supply chain to the smelters. Casio will continue to collect relevant information including customer reactions and industry trends in the US, EU and other regions.

As a member of the Responsible Mineral Trade Working Group of the Japan Electronics and Information Technology Industries Association (JEITA), Casio is also working to improve conflict mineral survey activities in the supply chain through industry collaboration.

* Global e-Sustainability Initiative (GeSI): An international strategic partnership to create and promote technologies and practices for economic, environmental and social sustainability, working with members from major information and communication technology (ICT) companies and organizations.