



PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Phantasy Star Online Blue Burst®

Continue living the Phantasy adventure online!

LONDON, UK – April 13th, 2005 – SEGA Europe Ltd, today announced that it would be releasing *Phantasy Star Online Blue Burst®* for the PC. The new game, developed by Sonic Team, is expected to be available for download in June 2005.

“We’re eager to continue building on this impressive series by offering fans more adventure online,” commented Matt Woodley, Marketing Director of SEGA Europe. “The Phantasy Star series continues life via SEGA’s desire to offer high quality online gaming. This is a great appetiser for fans of the series looking for the next *Phantasy Star Universe* release”

The story picks up seven years after Pioneer 1 touched down on planet Ragol. As Pioneer 2 arrives to continue the settlement on this new world, contact is suddenly lost following a massive explosion on the surface. Players take on the role of a hunter, commissioned by the Governor-General to resolve the mystery unfolding on Ragol.

Phantasy Star Online (PSO) is a network-based RPG featuring real-time action and communication between players over the internet. Since the introduction of the first episode in December 2000, it has won numerous international awards including a BAFTA Interactive Entertainment Award and Edge magazine Game Award.

With the release of network-dedicated PSO-BB, PC users are invited to join the ranks of Hunters in the continuing adventure. Unlike its predecessors, PSO-BB introduces server-based storage of player data thereby freeing the players from being confined to playing from any single PC/location. New team system, enhanced character graphics, and better game

controls are some of the other improvements introduced in the continuing evolution of PSO universe. PSO-BB game client software will be downloadable free of charge from servers on the Internet.

Sonic Team are promising better graphics, gameplay and music as the next Phantasy Star reaches to become an essential online adventure.

Phantasy Star Online Blue Burst ® Download it! In June 2005, available in English language only across Europe.

Key Features:

- 33 New Quests! Visit the Governor-General to complete 15 of these or the Laboratory for 18 more!
- “Momoka” has joined the Governor-General’s offices; quite what her role will be has yet to be seen!
- Team Feature – Keep in touch with other players for the first time! Keep in contact via ‘Team Chat’. Compete against other teams in the ‘Team point ranking system’!
- Network Game Save – Save your game on the network server in order to play on any computer, anywhere that has a copy loaded on it!
- Different modes to keep you on your toes – Including ‘Battle Mode’, ‘Challenge Mode’ and ‘Go Go Ball Lobby’.
- Character customization – Choose from 12 different characters and customise them from their faces, clothing and hairstyle to detailed body customisation via the morphing technology!
- More than a thousand usable items available. Find these items to further improve your character, but be cautious; some may have more meaning than meets the eye!

About SEGA® Europe

SEGA Europe Ltd. is the European Publishing arm of Tokyo, Japan-based SEGA Corporation, a worldwide leader in interactive entertainment both inside and outside the home. The company develops, publishes and distributes interactive entertainment software products for a variety of hardware platforms including PC, wireless devices, and those manufactured by Nintendo, Microsoft and Sony Computer Entertainment Europe. SEGA Europe’s web site is located at www.sega-europe.com

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