

Press release dated August 14, 2008

**Popular TV animation “Monochrome Factor” (by Kaili Sorano),
now showing to rave reviews on TV TOKYO Corporation,
makes its debut as an original game by 5pb. Inc.
Launching in Fall 2008 on PlayStation 2!**

5pb. Inc. (5pb.Games: Meguro-ku, Tokyo; President and CEO: Chiyomaru Shikura) has decided to launch a game software exclusively for PlayStation 2 in fall 2008. The game uses an original story based on the anime “Monochrome Factor” authored by Kaili Sorano. The anime is currently being presented as a series in the monthly magazine “Comic Blade avarus” to rave reviews. The magazine is published by Mag Garden Corporation (Head office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; President and CEO: Yoshihiro Hosaka).

■ “Monochrome Factor”

“Monochrome Factor” was first released as a series in “Comic Blade MASAMUNE” in 2004, but moved to “Comic Blade Avarus” in September 2007. A popular work that creates a sensation with every edition, the series has reached its 5th volume to date.

The 6th volume will be released in September with a breakthrough number of 400,000 copies.

Starting April 2008, the series hit the screens as a TV animation, and is currently showing on TV TOKYO to rave reviews.

The story revolves around Akira, a typical high school student. His encounter with a mysterious young man known as Shirogane leads him to enter into a battle with the dark side, embroiling those around him in the process.

■ Original story “Monochrome Factor cross road”

This is an original story created for the game. The player takes on the role of an original game character Serina Harumiya (name may be changed), a girl who is one year younger than Akira Nikaido. After a chance encounter with Akira Nikaido and his group, Serina eventually joins them through her own special powers. The choices made by the player during the story become the key to a variety of storylines and endings.

■ Game system

The game system is a text adventure type system, and various storylines evolve depending on the choices made during the story.

Players can befriend any of the Monochrome Factor characters based on their personal preferences.

■ Main characters

Character voices (CV) are the same as those used in the TV animation, such as Daisuke Ono, Junichi Suwabe, and Hiroshi Kamiya. The stellar cast of dubbing artists has also been brought into the game.

★ Serina Harumiya CV:

The central role that is taken on by the game player (name may be changed)

A girl who is one year younger than Akira and his group, Serina has a chance encounter with the group, and eventually joins them through her own special powers.

★ Akira Nikaido CV: Daisuke Ono

Akira is a strong fighter, but is also often sold out. He does not like school, often skips classes, and has a gruff and unsociable character. After his encounter with Shirogane, he drops his *doppelganger* (ghostly double) into the world of the shadows. To keep himself from being annihilated, Akira becomes “Shin” despite his confusion and bewilderment, and works with Shirogane to fight against those from the world of shadows.

★ Shirogane CV: Junichi Suwabe

Shirogane is a handsome young man who suddenly appears before Akira. However, he is not a human being belonging to our world, but describes himself as “a being that has taken on human form, but which resembles a shadow.” He is full of mystery and does not reveal more than is necessary (or sometimes, even what is considered to be necessary). He displays an overwhelming strength in the battle with the “beings from the world of shadows.”

★ Kengo Asamura CV: Hiroshi Kamiya

Kengo is a childhood friend of Akira’s, and belongs in the same class at school. He constantly tries to stay by Akira’s side, but Akira regards him as a hindrance. Still, that does not bother him. As he has been with Akira for a long time and fought together with him, Kengo is also a strong fighter. He is cheerful but sometimes insensitive to the atmosphere around him. His presence sets the mood of those around him.

★ Aya Suzuno CV: Masumi Asano

Aya is a member of the discipline committee in Akira’s class. She has a strong sense of justice, always looks out for Akira in school, and is one of the few people who can speak to him on equal terms. Well-versed in kendo, fencing, and iai, she can be depended upon during times of crises. While she fears things of an occult nature, she will also become embroiled in the battle against the “beings from the world of shadows.”

★ Haruka Kujō CV: Mitsuki Saiga

Head of the Kujō family, Haruka is a gifted child who earned a college degree at the age of 11. She is engaged in research on the Yin-Yang way and astrology, and becomes a good friend of Akira and his group. Haruka Kujō is an original character from the anime.

★ Shūichi Wagatsuma CV: Wataru Hatano

A friend of Shirogane’s, Shūichi runs a bar, and is more commonly called “Master.” Although he is blind, he is able to treat injuries. He is one of the characters who are full of mysteries.

【Overview of product】

Title:	Monochrome Factor cross road		
Genre:	Adventure		
Retail price:	To be announced		
Sales agency:	5pb. Inc.	Distributing agency:	Genterprise Inc.
Scheduled date of release:	Fall 2008	Compliant with:	PlayStation 2
Number of players:	Single player	CERO:	Scheduled for evaluation
Copyright:	© 2008 Kaili Sorano/Mag Garden Corporation, Project Monochrome © 2008 5pb. Inc.		

Official website: <http://5pb.jp/>
(Logos from the original work)

※ Screen display pictures are still under development.

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【Overview of sales agency】

Company name: 5pb. Inc.
5pb.Records: NEST Daikanyama B1, 28-11 Sarugaku-cho, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo
5pb.Games: Nakameguro GS Dainibiru 1F, 2-9-35 Kamimeguro, Meguro-ku, Tokyo
President and CEO: Chiyomaru Shikura
Established: April 2005
URL: <http://www.5pb.jp/>

【Overview of distributing agency】

Company name: Genterprise Inc.
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President and CEO: Masahiro Yonezawa
Established: January 11, 2008
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