## By Kevin Siembieda

News and Updates first . . .

Books are selling, the new website is getting close to going live, a lot of Palladium gamers are voting on our poll and offering very helpful observations and suggestions about Palladium products, as well as ideas for the future. Awesome, keep them coming. As for the staff, we continue to work like maniacs and could use a break, but can't afford to take the time. In fact, Wayne is coming in on Saturday to get some extra work in. I hope to be writing vampires, vampires, vampires!

**UPDATE:** New Palladium Website goes live next week. The website is almost done and ready to debut. Mark Dudley saw it yesterday for the first time and thought it was outstanding, saying, "This will turn some heads." We think so too. The new look is more dynamic, cleaner, easy to use, updated, and fun. That's the good news. The bad news, I've spent most of the week working with Rex and Wayne on it. Whew, there's a lot more work to these things than you'd think, and I'm not even doing the heavy lifting. If all goes according to plan, the new website will go live Monday or Tuesday evening. Keep your eyes peeled.

**UPDATE: Palladium's Facebook numbers are increasing.** We are only TWO people away from hitting 2500 people who like the page, we're seeing around 2,000 active users a month, and I've been posting a lot more the past two weeks, as are Alex and an increasing number of freelancers. Plus, we plan to do more with the page in the months ahead.

Join the fun

.

**UPDATE: Online sales.** I'm happy to report online sales are up this week and finally hovering around the level we like to see them. With any luck, sales will remain strong for a while or even continue to climb. They should, as Palladium continues to build momentum with the regular release of new titles, and growing excitement over our plans for the future. Best of all, folks are clamoring for the two **Rifts® Vampire** titles, as well as **Rifts®** 

Lemuria, Robotech® New Generation™ Sourcebook and

Rifts® Megaverse® in Flames.

So I guess I'd better start writing and editing faster!

**UPDATE:** Rifts® Thundercloud Galaxy™ – the book shipped last week, gamers are loving it and we're seeing a lot of positive response to it. As we had anticipated, people are surprised but delighted with the content. We continue to see a large number of gamers purchasing one or two additional books with their

Thundercloud

Galaxy™ order;

typically

mageddon Unlimited™, Dimensional Outbreak™, Rifts® Japan, Rifts® Lone Star™ or

The Rifter #54.

Get your copy today.

For a preview of the book, go to **DriveThruRPG.com** to get the <u>free PDF download</u>. It is easy to create a free account and only takes a couple of minutes. The free

**Armageddon Unlimited™** 

**Sneak Preview** 

is also available.

DriveThruRPG.com

is a good resource for getting

The Rifter® #1-48

and to fill in your RPG library with first edition copies of

Rifts®, Palladium Fantasy®, Heroes Unlimited™,

and other game lines as well as books such as

Nightbane® Book Four: Shadows of Light™

and both versions of the

The Mechanoids® RPG

(1985) and

The Collected Mechanoid Invasion® Trilogy

(1981-1983).

**UPDATE: Rifts® Japan** and **Rifts® Lone Star™** are back in stock and also selling well.

**UPDATE:** Rifts® Vampire Kingdoms™. I've spent most of the week clearing my schedule so that I can finish rewriting Vampire Kingdoms with little interruption in the next week. I'm burning with ideas and writing is going well.

**UPDATE: Rifts® Vampires Sourcebook.** I'm kinda working on this book at the same time as Vampire Kingdoms, making notes and kicking material that doesn't fit in the Kingdoms' rewrite into the sourcebook.

**UPDATE:** Robotech® New Generation™ Sourcebook. No movement on this title this week as my energy has been spent elsewhere. I did have a nice talk with Tommy Yune and he was glad to hear we want 2-4 Robotech books out by the end of the year.

UPDATE: Rifts® Lemuria. Must assign art.

I approved the new cover composition and color sketch for it Wednesday. It will be another crowd pleaser. Epic. And scary. I look at the cover and I think, holy \$%@+ that's happening on Rifts Earth! Oh yeah. ;)

**UPDATE:** Dead Reign™ Sourcebook Three. I actually made a few notes for this book this week.

**UPDATE:** Alex. Work is progressing well at Alex's fire damaged home. A new roof goes on next week and interior work continues. I think electrical (whole house needs to be rewired) and furnace happen next week. Alex has been handling the mounting costs and is starting to get excited now that very visible progress can be seen. He hopes to be back home by the end of the month. The strain on him and his family has been difficult. Fingers crossed.

BACK IN PRINT: Two popular Rifts® titles are back and ready to ship:

- Rifts® World Book 8: Rifts® Japan™
- Rifts® World Book 13: Lone Star™

Also recently brought back in print:

- Rifts® Dimension Book™ 6: Three Galaxies™
- Rifts® Black Vault™
- Rifts® Mercenaries™
- Aliens Unlimited™ A Heroes Unlimited™ sourcebook

# - Rifts® Baseball Caps

**Murmurs from the Megaverse®.** As promised, I have been posting a lot on Facebook, but haven't posted in

Murmurs from the Megaverse

® yet this week. I'll try to remedy that today or over the weekend.

**Palladium Presence at A-Kon – June 10-12, Dallas, Texas.** Reminder to fans in the Dallas-Houston area that Megaversal Ambassador, Kenneth Haun, is running Palladium gaming events at A-Kon. Join the fun. Sorry, none of us can make the event.

**Palladium to attend Gen Con Indy – August 4-7.** We mention this every week because we want to make sure everyone knows and swings by our booth. Spread the word. Even though there are no "official" Palladium gaming events there are always a bunch of "unofficial" games. Please stop by the Palladium booth to chat and get autographs, pick up new books and back stock titles, and have some fun. Palladium people you'll get to meet include:

- Kevin Siembieda
- Wayne Smith
- Nick Bradshaw (artist)
- Michael Mumah (artist)
- Brandon Aten (writer)
- Matthew Clements (writer; tentative)
- And others to be announced.

**QueenofGhouls.com** – Kathy Simmons has another 2-3 new zombie creations going up on <u>h</u> <u>er store</u>

by Sunday (two just sold!) – including one of her popular "crawling zombies" suitable for outdoor and indoor display. Kathy creates astonishing, real looking, life-sized Halloween props. I can't tell you how often these "ghouls" have scared the heck out of me. In fact, it happened just last week.

**Happy Birthday Wayne.** That should have been part of last week's Update because Wayne's birthday was last Sunday. We're celebrating it tomorrow. Hmm, is it my imagination, or is Wayne moving a bit slower since his birthday?

That's the news and specific updates I can think of; now read about what's happening Behind the Scenes.

# Behind the Scenes Report – Palladium Books®

We are thrilled with the amount of input we are getting from our last two Weekly Updates about the future of Palladium and what YOU would like to see, as well as our online poll and the suggestions and comments that have come with it. Keep 'em coming.

On the subject of possible changes to the core rules, Alex started three new threads: Rules changes – a little changes – medium level and

Rules changes – a lot

**Momentum.** We feel like we are making strides on a number of projects and target milestones already. The new Palladium website goes live next week (shooting for Monday or Tuesday), our Facebook page is

attracting an audience, sales are up, and we are collating a ton of data on numerous projects and ideas. I think we have more new books in waiting for final editing and printing, and more in development than at any time in our history.

Palladium is making a buzz. I have asked you to make some noise and spread the word about Palladium and our plans. Well, you are doing a good job, because there is a lot of excellent discussion. Let's keep it up! Do not underestimate the power of word of mouth. Keep talking about Armageddon Unlimited, Thundercloud Galaxy, the upcoming Rifts® Vampire books, your favorite games and sourcebooks and positive movement at Palladium Books. Posts and chatter by freelancers, staff, YOU and me on Facebook, the Palladium website and elsewhere (especially elsewhere) is creating mounting excitement and positive discussion.

I'm even happy to hear from Palladium's critics and nonbelievers. We need to hear what people think, believe and want. I'm sure many of the things we are researching and considering will delight a lot of people. I'm also certain we won't go far enough or give some people everything they want. I learned a long time ago you can't please everyone, but we listen to EVERYONE and consider every point of view. In the end, all you can do is what you think is best and try to satisfy as many people as you can, and that's exactly what we plan to do.

**I don't blame the doubters** for some of their assumptions and negativity, especially those who have commented that they've heard some of this before and nothing ever came of it. They're right.

We've had a lot of plans over the last several years after the Crisis of Treachery that we have been unable to make a reality. Some of the things we are talking about now include some of them. All are things I've wanted to do for a long time, but couldn't. I'm not making excuses, I'm trying to explain that not only did we have to face the emotional and economic aftermath of the Crisis of Treachery, but we were clobbered with one disaster, loss and crisis after another, and it took its toll. It took its toll on all of us.

I wish people could understand everything Palladium has gone through. Palladium has faced one debilitating challenge after another since the Crisis of Treachery, and as much as we strived to do more, we just couldn't. It's been a crucible, but we've come out of it stronger and more driven.

So why can you expect results this time? For a number of reasons.

- 1. I'm different. Somehow my head is sharper and more focused than it has been in a long time. Somehow I've been able to recharge my creative batteries and I'm fired up on every level, from the creative to business.
- 2. I don't know about you, but the Palladium crew and I, as well as our freelancers and friends, are sick and tired of disaster. We're tired of limping along. We want Palladium strong. We want to stretch our creative wings and produce products, in a variety of mediums, that will blow your minds and make you squeal with delight like a child on Christmas morning.
- **3.** I'm taking charge to shape Palladium's destiny into one of rebirth, creativity and success. I'm soliciting input and ideas and seeking inspiration from my staff, my writers, my artists, and from you, as well as other resources.
- **4.** I've empowered my brilliant freelancers to cut loose like they never have before and create amazement. I want them to dream and dream big.
- **5.** I've challenged the Palladium creators to strive to meet your expectations and then exceed them. Only their "A" game is acceptable.
- **6.** Palladium's freelance writers, artists and other associates have never been as committed and driven to create for Palladium and make things happen. Plus Palladium has seen an influx of highly motivated new talent helping us to turn aspirations into reality. Rex Barkdoll and his work on the new website is just one

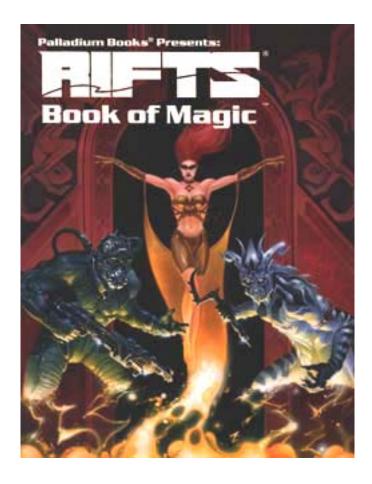
example.
7. We are taking action. For those who might think these are just words, they are mistaken. We are highly motivated and making things happen action. Even before the Creators Conference, we've been researching, organizing, formulating plans and setting the groundwork for a better future.
Just words? Hardly. You are seeing thing happening already.
- The Creators Conference was dynamic action that has set into motion many positive endeavors.
- The efforts of Mark Dudley and our weekly meetings move Palladium closer to doing comic books every week. My many other meetings and telephone calls every week are more action.
- The Facebook page is tangible action.
- The new Palladium website going live next week is positive action.
- The release of upcoming books is welcomed action.
- Will there be stumbles and delays, yes. Will it stop our forward movement, no.
8. YOU are the final part of the equation for success. And we need you to make it all possible. You can start by telling us what we're doing right and the areas you'd like to see changed or improved. Don't stop there, offer suggestions on how we can make those changes. Tell us what types of products you'd like to see. Should we be doing new T-shirts, coffee mugs and prints? Do you want to see other items? If so, like what? Tell us your ideas for celebrating Palladium's 30 Year Anniversary (an accomplishment worth celebrating). And fear not, our Number One goal is RPG products for all of our game lines.
Please take a minute to participate in our poll. Indicate what products and areas you would like to see Palladium expand into.

Click here to vote in our ongoing poll.

If the Crisis of Treachery taught me anything, it's that we can accomplish anything when we work together. Where there is a will, there is a way. We know that to be true. Your response to the Crisis has proven it.

I keep saying, exciting times are coming, but I think they are already here. Thank you for being part of it. Keep those imaginations burning bright and game on.

- Kevin Siembieda, Publisher



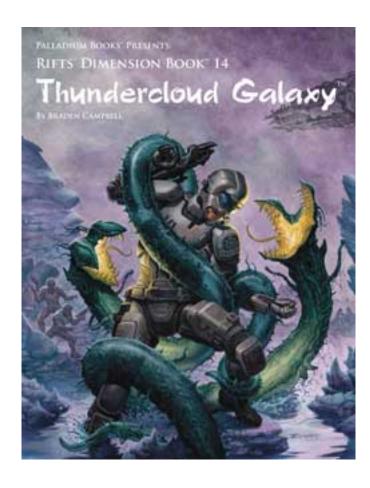
**Rifts**® Book of Magic – Back in Print□

- Ships May 25, 2011

This is the ultimate guide to magic for Rifts Earth. All the magic spells, magic tattoos, Techno-Wizard items, magic weapons, equipment, body armor, restraints, parasites, symbiotes, magic items, Bio-Borgs, Automatons, Iron

Juggernauts, and more from *Rifts® World Books 1-23, Sourcebooks 1-4*, and *Siege on Tolkeen 1-6*, collected into one big reference.

- 850+ spells of great variety.
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- Magic herbs, plants, components and Symbiotes.
- Shamanistic magic, Fetishes, Talismans and more.
- Comprehensive index of Practitioners of Magic.
- Designer notes, comments, tips & hints for running magic characters.
- Written by Kevin Siembieda and others.
- 352 pages \$26.95 retail Cat. No. 848.
- Back in print May 25, 2011.



NEW! Rifts® Dimension Book™ 14: Thundercloud Galaxy™

The book is done, at the printer and awesome. Great ideas, great art, unique new alien races available as player characters, weird creatures and monsters, secrets of the Gene-Tech, weapons of the Dominators, ancient ruins, colony creation rules, adventure galore and much, mucl

The Scramble is the mad dash to claim and colonize the thousands of worlds of the Thundercloud Galaxy. Colonists flock to the Thundercloud filled with dreams. Space Pirates and an array of cutthroats also flock to the galaxy, guns in hand, ready to rob and fleece the colonists Lawmen and heroes are in great demand, and the opportunities for clever adventurers are said to be without limit. As the civilizations of the Anvil and Corkscrew Galaxies scramble to colonize the Thundercloud, they are beginning to realize the galaxy holds more riches, beauty, horrors and secrets than anyone has ever imagined, making it a place of discovery, adventure and treachery like no other hands.

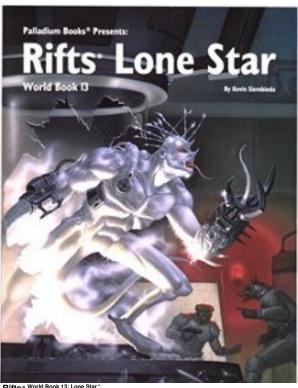
Thundercloud Galaxy™ is a perfect companion to the rest of the Phase World®/Three Galaxies™ based Dimension Books as well as the Minion War™ series. Players can be pirates, raiders, brigands or hired guns, or they may be explorers, adventurers, Spacers, or any



## Rifts® World Book 8: Rifts® Japan ~

- 20 C.C.s Including the Mystic Moja, Milys Cybory, Nilys Advary, Cyber-Gamural, Nieja Techno-Wilsard, Japanese Demon Queller & more. To sake of opense remore including Statement SAMAS and Oliter Broke.

  12 with of opense and the charge of the Cyber Saman Sama



Rifts® World Book 13: Lone Star

- Hover cycles of the Lone Star state.

  Notable characters in the region.

  Overview of Lone Star and the Pecos Empire.

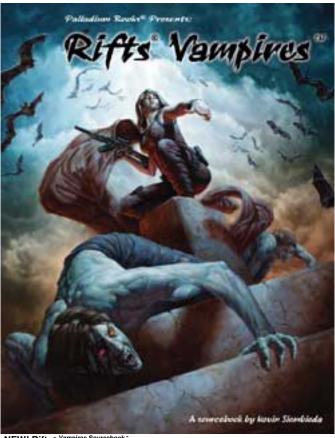
  Overview of Lone Star Complex and the mad doctor who runs it.

  A wealth of background material and adventure ideas.

  Written by Kevin Siembleda.

  176 pages \$20.95 retail -0 Cat. No. 825 . Ships April 25, 2011.





## NEW! Robotech® New Generation® Sourcebook

- Rules for using mecha, power armor and technology from all four eras of Robotech.

  Kit-bashed mecha and rules for jury-rigging and combining parts from different generations of mecha.

  Freedom Fighter C.C. ca and resistance organizations.

  Rogues and misfits from the three Robotech Wars.

  New weepons, vehicles, mecha and more consultations.

  Villains, Institut, bandls, lived herechnen, adventure and adventure ideas galore.

  Villains, Institut, bandls, lived Ascisson.

  Amongo's 2005 mechanisms and roll and Ascisson.

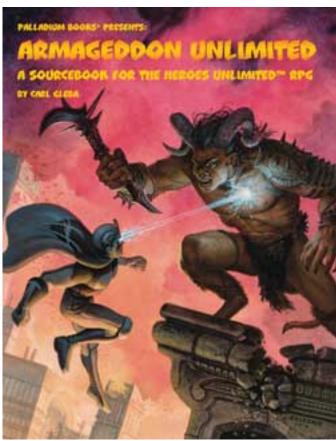
  182-255 pages \$16.95 retail Cal. No. 558 . Final page count and price may be subject to change. Spring 2011 rela

## NEW! Rifts® World Book: Lemuria™

- The Lemustans, their race, history and society, when O.C.c is including the Serpent Hunter, Shriekers, Oceanic Guardsman, Aquatic Bio The Stone Guardians of Easter Island and other mysteries. Biomancer Gardens and Aquatic Biomancy. Bio-Maron, Bio-Wespons and Bio-Construct Symbiotes.

## NEW! Rifts® Megaverse® in Flames

## NEW! Rifts® Chaos Earth \* Sourcebook: First Responders



Armageddon Unlimited<sup>™</sup> for Heroes Unlimited<sup>™</sup> and the Minion War <sup>¬ - Available now</sup>

Armagedon Unlimited\*\* is the ultimate good vs evil setting and adverture. The fate of the world hange in the balance and only you can stop its destruction as demons and Deevils fight for control of the Earth and bringing about the end of life as we know it

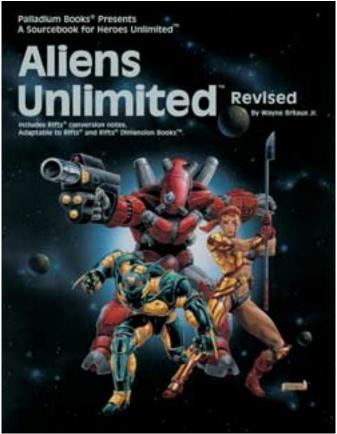
Armagedoo Delimined \*\* is more than an epic world saving adventure, it is also a sourcebook jum packed with new powers, major, weapons and Power Categories that can be incorporated into any Heroes Unlimited\*\* campaign. This book can be used as a standation adventure sourcebook for Heroes Unlimited\*\* or as a pixtud plot in an expansive Minimal value and the professional standard or adventure sourcebook for Heroes Unlimited\*\* or as a pixtud plot in an expansive Minimal value and the professional standard or adventure sourcebook for Heroes Unlimited\*\* or as a pixtud plot in an expansive Minimal value and the professional standard or adventure sourcebook for Heroes Unlimited\*\* or as a pixtud plot in an expansive Minimal value and the professional value and the profession

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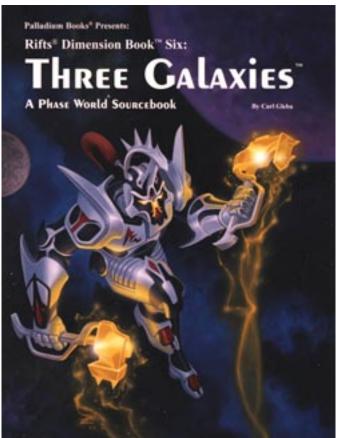
- 7 new Minor and 14 Major Super Abilities.
   Deevil and Demon magical Chaos Weapon
- Enchanted Weapons of Order and a few Enchanted Objects.

  Demon Hunter Power Category and abilities.
- Heroic Hellion Power Category play a "reformed demon. Hellion monster creation table.
- Hellion monster creation table.

  Magically Bestowed Variant Power Categories and abilities let you wield weapons that empower good and destroy exporter Vide, the mastermind behind the Armaneddon plot.
- Doctor Vilde, the mastermind behind the Armageddon plot. The secret island base of Doctor Vilde and 16 maps.
- The Church of Unity and its role in bringing about Armageddor The Chaos Generators – the key to stopping Armageddon.
- A menagerie of evil villains, people and places.
   The Armageddon scenario, adventure ideas and Minion War™ on Earth
- Written by Carl Gleba. Additional text by Kevin Siembieda.
   Cover by John Zeleznik.
- Cover by John Zeleznik.
   160 pages \$20.95 retail –0 <u>Cat. No. 527</u> . Available now.



Aliens Unlimited -- Back in Print A sourcebook for Heroes Unlimited --



Rifts® Dimension Book® 6: Three Galaxies® - Back in Prin

guide to the Three Galacies, this book takes a book at dozens of solar systems, notabble planets, select alien races, people, civilizations and moneters, as well as space anomalies, spaceships and more. This is another sourcebook that is ideal to

An overview of the Three Galaxies.
16 O.C.C.s.R.C.C.s including the Obsidian Spell Thi

16 O.C.C.s R.C.C.s including the Obsidian Spell Third and Space War A half dozen monaters plus the mysterious Necrol. Galactic Organizations (Afortan Empire and more).

Galactic Organizations (Atortan Empire and more).

More information on the Intruders, Kreeghor, Splugorth and other
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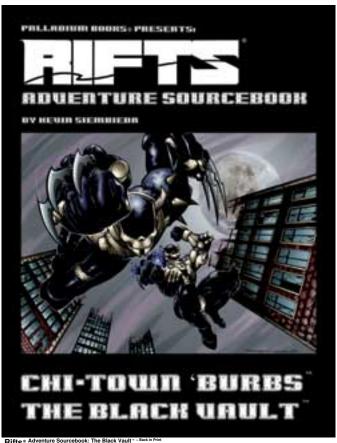
Demon Stars, Demon Planets and magic starships.

Notable spaceships and weapon systems.

The monstrous Necrol and their living weapons and spacecraft Notable equipment of the Three Galaxies.

Notable equipment of the Three Galaxies.

A wealth of background material and adventure ideas
Written by Carl Globs.

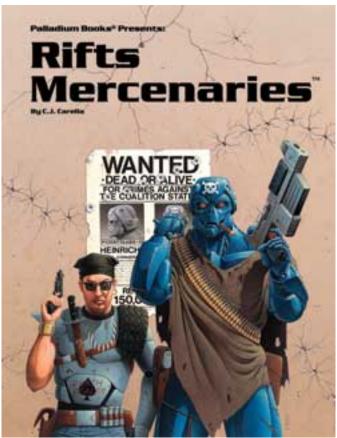


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For generations it has been runnored the Coalition States maintains a Top Secret facility where it books away and stores all the major weapons and items it confocates from adventurers and mages. The CS, of course, denies these runners, but they are insu. And the tunk is revealed for the first time in this epic sourcebook packed with secrets and magic times. Do your characters done to not the Black Valid?

- The Legend of the Black Vault.
  The Coalition's Campaign Against Magic
- The Black Vault, its defenses and its inventory of magic items.

  101 Magic Items each "item" (79 of them) is described in detail. The last 22 items are magic potions with the effi-
- Written by Kevin Siembleda.
  48 pages \$9.95 retail Cat. No. 855 Available now.





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Back by popular demand. A black Rifts® Logo on a khaki baseball cap with black trim. Looks great and fans love it! Makes a great gift.

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  Cloth Velcro strap for size adjustment. A nice cap.
  \$14.95 per cap -① Cat. No. 2544 Available to ship Friday, March 25, 2011.



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  Rifts® World Book 20: Canada Back in print Available now

  Palladium Fantasy RPG® Back in print Available now

  Palladium Fantasy RPG® Back in print Available now

  Rifts® Game Master Guide Back in print Available now

  Rifts® World Book 5: Triax Samp: The NGR Back in print Available now

  Rifts® Bionics Sourcebook Back in print Available now

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  Rifts® Megaverse® Builder Back in print Available now

### March 2011 Releases

- Rifts® Baseball Cap BACK IN STOCK
   Rifts® Dimension Book™ 6: Three Galaxies™ BACK IN PRINT
   Rifts® Black Vault™ BACK IN PRINT
   Rifts® Mercenaries™ BACK IN PRINT
   Allens Unlimited™ A Heroes Unlimited™ sourcebook BACK IN PRINT

### April 2011 Releases

- The Rifter® #54 New Available now.

  Rifts® Dimension Book™ 14: Thundercloud Galaxy™ New April 25.

  Rifts® World Book 8: Rifts® Japan™ BACK IN PRINT Ships April 25.

  Rifts® World Book 13: Lone Star™ BACK IN PRINT Ships April 25.

### May 2011 Releases

- Robotech® New Generation™ Sourcebook (tentative)
  Rifts® WB One: Vampire Kingdoms™, Expanded & Dote the Rifts® Book of Magic (back in print)

# June 2011 Releases

- Rifts® Vampires Sourcebook™ New Rifts® World Book™: Lemuria New

### July 2011 Releases

- The Rifter® #55 New <u>Rifts® Megaverse® in Flames</u> (Minion War™ crossover) New

### **New Releases Coming Soon (tentative)**

- Rifts® Chaos Earth™: First Responders Sourcebook (as soon as we can slot it in)
   Dead Reign™ Sourcebook Three

### In the Pipeline

- Robotech® UEEF Marines and other Robotech® sourcebooks.
   Rifts® sourcebooks
   Rifts® Chaos Earth™ sourcebooks
   Rifts® Chaos Earth™ sourcebooks
   Palladium Fantasy®: Mysteries of Magic™ Two
   Palladium Fantasy® of Superior Sourcebooks
   Palladium Fantasy® of Rysteries of Magic™ Two
   Palladium Fantasy® of Rysteries of Magic™ Two
   Palladium Fantasy®: Mysteries of Magic™ Two
   Warpath™ Urban Jungle RPG
   And other good stuff. Lots of other good stuff!

### **Recently Back in Print**

