By Kevin Siembieda

Before I forget, let me wish those of you who celebrate it a very Happy Easter.

Future now

I mentioned some of this in a couple of recent <u>Murmurs from the Megaverse</u> ®, but I wanted everyone to know about the many exciting ideas and projects we are working on behind the scenes. The plan: to take Palladium Books to the next level and new heights.

Phase One: The plan. Last year, after my father's death and my waking up from a fog, I spent weeks reviewing and reassessing Palladium Books and our potential. That led to my creation of a plan to bring the company back to a position of strength and growth. Months of research, discussion and additional planning followed. Heck, it is an ongoing process.

Phase Two: The Creators Conference. The Conference was a gathering of many of Palladium's core creators to discuss my plans for Palladium. Even though we had expected to run evenings of gaming and goofing around, most of us continued to talk about new projects, new ideas and honing our craft all night long. I tried to put things in perspective and set the stage for new development. We spent hours brainstorming. There were discussions and workshops about our craft and creating dynamic products, as well as ways to bring new people into the Palladium family. I must admit, I was surprised and pleased at the level of commitment almost everyone was willing to make. I was impressed by people who I already held in high regard. I think great things are coming from Palladium. And soon.

Phase Three: A strong foundation. Phase Three is in full swing. Before we take any giant leaps into the future, we must make sure our foundation is strong and secure.

- Primary Objective: Make our RPG operations secure. That means releasing at least one new product *every* month.
- Support all our game lines with an emphasis on Rifts®, Robotech®, Palladium Fantasy RPG®, Nightbane®, Heroes Unlimited™ and

Dead Reign™,

with a slower build-up to other lines including

Splicers®, Beyond the Supernatural™,

etc. Increased effort on the part of freelancers should make this a reality very soon.

- Keep our products dynamic and push the envelope. We cannot simply "bang out" books. They must maintain Palladium's reputation for dynamic, quality products and strive to exceed the audience's expectations. We want to wow you with every new release.
- Create games and sourcebooks that inflame your imaginations and never lose the quality you expect from us.
- Set short-term and long-term goals, establish a realistic time table, set milestones, and establish creative teams.

Phase Four: Expanding our audience. Phase Four is just beginning. We need to reach more gamers and find new audiences. We know that most people who find and play our games love them and stay with us, but how do we reach a larger audience?

One way is to take full advantage of digital and social mediums. For months now, *Alex, Wayne* and

Ι,

along with

Rex Barkdoll, Thom Bartold,

and others, have been exploring the possibilities. And I mean ALL possibilities.

I hesitate to mention it all, because I don't know how quickly we'll be able to implement the many things we want to do, but here are some of what we have been talking about and will be working toward in the months to come.

- Launch the new and improved Palladium website (we are only a week or two away from doing so).
 - Do more with Facebook.
 - Utilize Twitter, Flickr and more.
- YouTube videos. Yep, you can expect to see a video interview (along the lines of the podcasts) every week from me, Kevin Siembieda (probably starting in May or June sometime),

and maybe additional interviews from artists and others. We are also kicking around the idea of doing an ongoing Palladium book review series hosted by Carmen Bellaire, and other good stuff.

- An increase in PDF and POD products.
- E-books.

Phase Five: New frontiers. Role-playing games are our first love and will always be our primary focus; however, we are looking into new technology and new market areas to carry Palladium I.P.s (intellectual properties) into new areas of entertainment. The following are all being investigated. They are listed in no particular order.

- Comic books based on Palladium RPG intellectual properties.
- A web comic or two. Something short, fun and funny.
- Flash games and apps for Facebook, the iPad, etc.
- Finding licensing partners with the expertise to take Palladium I.P.s into new entertainment mediums.
- Film and television. We are seeing a lot of interest from Hollywood and elsewhere in Palladium's intellectual properties, so it seems only a matter of time before something breaks in this area. We'd love to see films, TV shows, videogames, TCGs, board games, novels, toys and other products based on our I.P.s.

Many of the points in Phases Four and Five are new things for Palladium Books, and boy are we excited about them. We've been talking to creators, lining up people and laying out projects and proposals.

Vote in our poll - Videogames

- Facebook/iPhone/Flash Games (think Angry Birds and Farmville)
- MMOGs
- TCGs (Trading Card Games)
- Board Games
- Miniature Games
- Novels (fiction)
- Comic Books (printed)
- Digital Comic Books
- Web Comics
- E-Books
- PDFs of existing and new books
- Other

We need your help too. Buying Palladium products is always helpful, but we need you to help in ways that don't cost you a penny. We need to hear from you. We want to know what *you*

would like to see from us. As you know, Palladium Books has the best interests of our fans and supporters at heart in everything we do. We have always tried to create the high quality products YOU want. So help us now. Help us by giving us input about the social mediums you use most and where you'd like to see Palladium (Facebook, Twitter, etc.).

Please take a minute to participate in our poll. Indicate what products and areas you would like to see Palladium expand into. (see the inset on the Right)

What is the category for "Other"? We don't know. You tell us what we're missing. What else would you like to see?

Make some noise. Talk about the Palladium games and sourcebooks you enjoy. Tell people about the RPG hobby you love. YOU are our best ambassadors and advertising medium. Seriously. Never underestimate the power and value of word of mouth.

Palladium is on <u>Facebook</u> now. Go there and talk about us and the things you enjoy about role-playing games. Answer the questions that have been raised recently about favorite characters, cover art, and much more.

Don't stop there. Don't just talk about Palladium on our website and Facebook page. These are great places to start. They are your home and Palladium community, but talk about Palladium and RPGs everywhere. Let people know why you like the game systems, setting, stories, art, etc. so much. Spread the word. Be an active part of Phases Four and Five. Be part of the process to help us create the products you desire.

Of course, you won't be seeing all of this immediately, and some may not be feasible for us, but we want to do a great number of the things outlined above. Many were discussed at the Creators Conference and are being investigated, and in some cases, being developed, as you read this.

Other news and information

UPDATE: Online sales. I'm happy to report online sales have continued to slowly pick up for the second week in a row. They are not at the level we need to see, but they're getting there. Pre-orders for **Rifts® Thundercloud Galaxy™, Robotech® New**

Generation™ Sourcebook

and the two **Rifts**®

Vampire titles

are increasing. Here, behind the scenes is growing excitement about

Rifts® Lemuria

and

Rifts® Megaverse® in Flames,

as well as a number of yet-to-be-revealed projects.

UPDATE: Rifts® Thundercloud Galaxy™ – Ships Monday, April 25. This book has characters, new races, gear, adventures and ideas that can be dropped into Rifts®, Phase World® and any number of settings to spice up ongoing campaigns. For an advance preview of the book, go to **DriveT**

hruRPG.com

to get the

free PDF download

. It is easy to create a free account and only takes a couple of minutes. The preview shows the Trensik Mercenaries R.C.C.

as well as a brief overview piece, a map of the galaxy and the Contents pages. The free Armageddon Unlimited™ Sneak Preview

is also available.

Remember, <u>DriveThruRPG.com</u> is a good resource for getting **The Rifter**® numbers #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® Vampire Kingdoms. I've been writing down ideas and writing bits and pieces of the book here and there all week. The vampire information is rewritten from the perspective

of Doc Reid and offers a wealth of new information and insight about vampires. The Rifts® Vampires Sourcebook

will offer ways to travel through and adventure in the Vampire Kingdoms — and live to tell the tale.

UPDATE: Robotech® New Generation™ Sourcebook. I still plan to work on this sourcebook in between work on the vampire titles.

UPDATE: Rifts® Lemuria. I spoke to John Zeleznik yesterday and he tells me the cover is almost finished. I can hardly wait. Author Greg Diaczyk also provided a few pages of tweaks and additions to the book.

UPDATE: Rifts® Megaverse® in Flames. I don't know why, but I've been thinking a lot about this book and can't wait to get into Carl's manuscript.

UPDATE: Dead Reign™ Sourcebook Three. I have two ideas for the theme of the next Dead Reign sourcebook. Now I have to decide which one to run with.

UPDATE: Alex. Alex's house has been stripped of debris. This afternoon he got the permits to start the physical reconstruction on the home. The house where Alex lived with his 88 year old mother, sister and two nieces suffered serious damage from a fire in January. They are looking forward to quick repairs and having their home back in a few weeks. Damage is extensive, but everyone is optimistic.

BACK IN PRINT: Two popular Rifts® titles will be ready to ship the same time as Rifts® Dimension Book™ 14: Thundercloud Galaxy™

- Monday, April 25, 2011.
- Rifts® World Book 8: Rifts® Japan™ Ships April 25
- Rifts® World Book 13: Lone Star™ Ships April 25

Available now: These items came back in print recently.

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've been posting much more in the Murmurs from the Megaverse

® as well as

Facebook

. Twitter is coming soon along with other social media.

Palladium Presence at A-Kon – June 10-12, Dallas, Texas. Fan and Megaversal Ambassador, Kenneth Haun, has been doing such a great job running games at A-Kon, that Palladium was given a full page of events in the program. Fans in the area should check out this event. We've heard nothing but good things about A-Kon and Kenneth's events. We'll post more details in the next Weekly Update.

Palladium to attend Gen Con Indy – August 4-7. We don't want anyone to forget we'll be at Gen Con this year. 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:

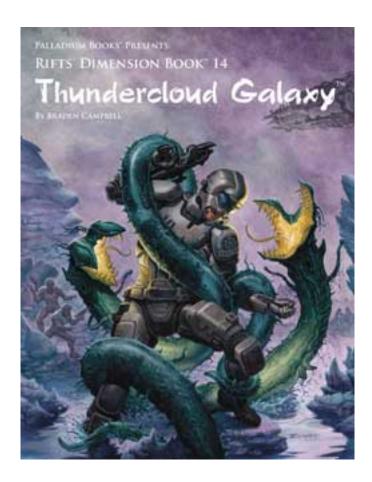
- Kevin Siembieda
- Wayne Smith
- Nick Bradshaw (artist; tentative)
- Michael Mumah (artist)
- Brandon Aten (writer)
- Matthew Clements (writer; tentative)
- And others to be announced.

QueenofGhouls.com – Kathy Simmons sold a zombie and scary nurse this week. Many other wonderfully creepy, new life-sized Halloween props are being constructed in her dungeon. They be appearing in her online store in the weeks to come. Ah, it is never too early to enjoy Halloween. The lady who purchased the zombie and nurse already has a Queen of Ghouls Mad Doctor displayed in her dining room. Now that's Halloween spirit. And a tribute to how awesome Kathy's creations are that someone would want one of her creations to be displayed all year long. Then again, Kathy is the "Queen" of Ghouls.

Birthday celebrations. We are finally taking time tomorrow to relax a bit and celebrate Julius' and my birthdays. Looking forward to some good eating, cake, ice cream and laughs with friends. I just hope Kathy doesn't put the actual number of candles on the cake to reflect our combined ages or there'll be another house fire for sure! ;)

Whew, that was a lot to talk about. I hope you are excited about these things as we are. Keep the faith and game on.

- Kevin Siembieda, Publisher



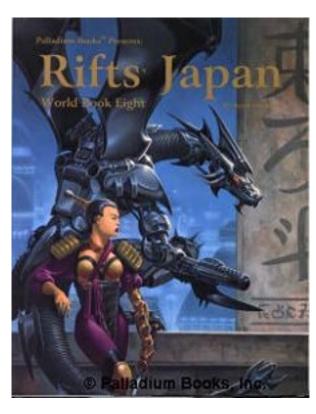
NEW! Rifts® Dimension Book™ 14: Thundercloud Galaxy™

- Ships April 25, 2011 - at the printer

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, much more.

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 as said to be without limit. As the civilizations of the Anvill and Corkscrew Galaxies scramble to colonize the Thundercloud, they are beginning to realize the galaxy holds more riches, beauty, horors and secrets than anyone has ever imagined, making it a place of discovery, adventure and reachery like no other.

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 number of heroes trying to protect the colonists or the indigenous peoples of countless worlds and colonies. The possibilities are truly limited only by your imagination.

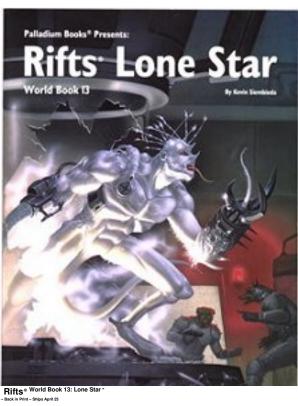


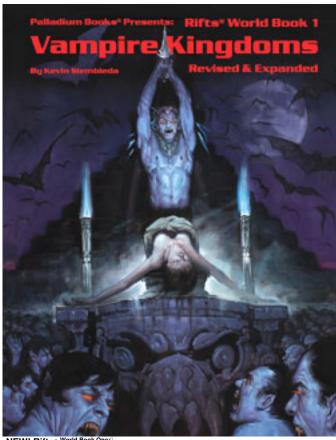
Rifts® World Book 8: Rifts® Japan®

- 20 O.C.C.s including the Mystic Ninja, Ninja Cyborg, Ninja Axioer, Cyborg Charles and Confession and Including Seasons SARAS and Gillare Boys. Ophysical Asian, Anticology Seasons SARAS and Collette Boys. Ophysical Asian, Nichology Deep Song Seasons and other bioness. Mystical govers and entatial arts.

 Mystical govers and entatial arts.

 Mystical govers and Seasons Season



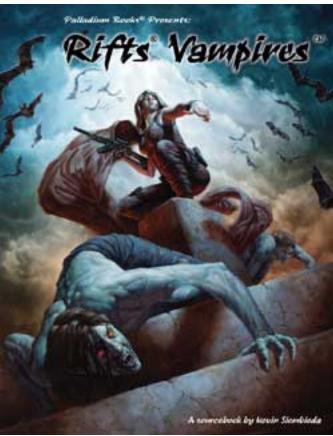


NEW! Rifts® world book One:

Kevin Siembieds is reorganizing, tweaking, expanding and updating one of the most popular Ritts® Sourcebook One a few years ago. Best of al. it will be accompanied by the accompanied by the Sourcebook One a few years ago. Best of al. it will be accompanied by the Ritts® Sourcebook One a few years ago. Best of al. it will be accompanied by the Ritts® Vampires

- The observations of Doc Reid.
- Vampires: Their strengths, weaknesses and power The Vampire Kingdoms expanded.
- Vampire strategies and plans for conquest.

 Vampire hunters and Techno-Wizard slayer devices (new and old).
- Key locations including Juarez and El Paso.
 The mystery of the Yucatan Peninsula.
- Monsters, D-Bees, and adventure ideas galore.
 Updated and revised to 110 P.A.
- Cover by E.M. Gist. Interior art by various artists
 Written by Kevin Siembieda.



NEW! Rifts® Vampires Sourcebook

NEW! Robotech® New Generation " Sourcebo

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

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

 Freedom Fighter O.C. as and resistance organizations.

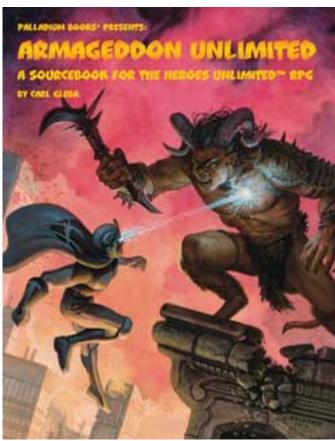
 Rogues and misfits from the three Robotech Wars.

 New weepons, "whichels, mecha and missing to describe the describe of the company of the co

NEW! Rifts® World Book: Lemuria™

NEW! Rifts® Megaverse® in Flames®

- Apocatypes Plagues: Brompe diseases, symbiotes and mutations the First Reponded Co.C.s., skills and optical equipment. Civilian Co.C.c.s., skills and optical equipment. Notice receive whiches, mobile dromes, and technology. New wargons, whiches, mobile and more. New wargons, whiches, mobile and more. Creatures from the Rills and adventure Ideas galore. Written by Jason Richards & Kavin Stembleds. Bot 129 pages 163.65 steal Cart. Ho. 565 . Coming in 2011.



Armageddon Unlimited™ for Heroes Unlimited™ and the Minion War - Available now

Armageddon Unlimited ** is the ultimate good vs evil setting and adventure. The fate of the world hangs in the balance and only you can stop its destruction as demons and Deevils light 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 standatore adventure sourcebook for Heroes Unlimited** or as a pixtual plot in an expansive Minima Warmanian, and a previous of the standard or adventure sourcebook for Heroes Unlimited** or as a pixtual plot in an expansive Minima Warmanian, and a previous or a standard or adventure sourcebook for Heroes Unlimited** or as a pixtual plot in an expansive Minima Warmanian, and a previous or a standard or adventure sourcebook for Heroes Unlimited** or as a pixtual plot in an expansive Minima Warmanian, and a previous or a pixtual plot in an expansive Minima Warmanian, and a previous or a pixtual plot in an expansive Minima Warmanian, and a pixtual plot in an expansive Minima Warmanian, and a pixtual plot in an expansive Minima Warmanian, and a pixtual plot in an expansive Minima Warmanian, and a pixtual plot in an expansive Minima Warmanian, and a pixtual plot in an expansive Minima Warmanian, and a pixtual plot in an expansive Minima Warmanian, and a pixtual plot in an expansive Minima Warmanian, and a pixtual plot in an expansive Minima Warmanian, and a pixtual plot in a pixtual plot in an expansive Minima Warmanian, and a pixtual plot in a pixtual plot in a pixtual plot in an expansive Minima Warmanian, and a pixtual plot in a pixtual plot

of the book from DriveThruRPG.com.

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

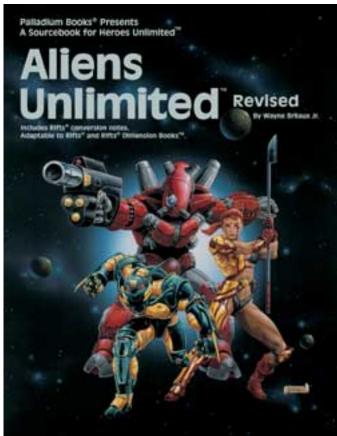
 Demon Hunter Power Category and abilities.
- Heroic Hellion Power Category play a "reformed demor Hellion monster creation table.
- Hellion monster creation table.

 Magically Bestowed Variant Power Categories and abilities let you wield weapons that empower good

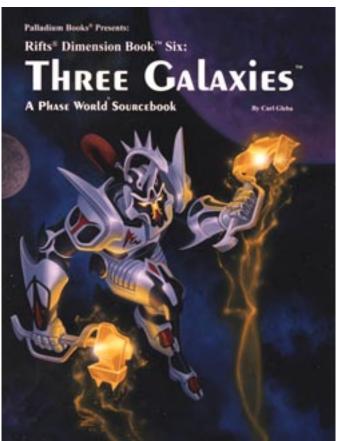
 Doctor Vide the mastermind behind the Armageddon plot.
- Doctor Vilde, the mastermind behind the Armageddon plot. The secret island base of Doctor Vilde and 16 maps.
- The Church of Unity and its role in bringing about Armageddor The Chaos Generators – the key to stopping Armageddon.
- A menagerie of evil villains, people and places.

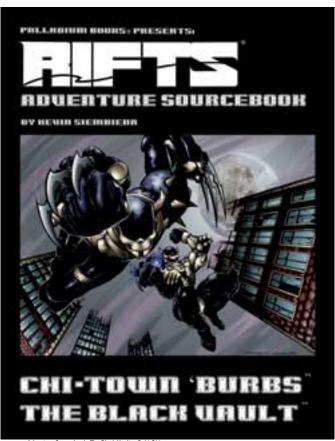
 The Armageddon scenario, adventure ideas and Minion War™ on Earth
- Written by Carl Gleba. Additional text by Kevin Siembieda.

 Cover by John Zeleznik.
- Cover by John Zeleznik.
 160 pages \$20.95 retail Cat. No. 527
 Available now.



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









"Rifts® Logo" Baseball Cap – Back in Print

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.

- Cotton cloth fabric, khaki color with black trim and black Rifts logo.
 Cloth Velcro strap for size adjustment. A nice cap.
 \$14.95 per cap -① Cat. No. 2544 Available to ship Friday, March 25, 2011.



PDF downloads from DriveThruRPG.com

This is a great resource for getting out of print Palladium titles and other select books. We've made 90 titles available as PDF digital downloads from DriveThruRPG.com. This is a great way to try Palladium products and get access to out of print RPG source material. Some notable titles include.

Splicers® RPG

Beyond the Supermatural™ RPG , First Edition Rules.

Boxed Nightmares™ for BTS, First Edition Rules.

Nightbane® Book Four: Shadows of Light™ .

The Mechanoids RPG and The Mechanoid Invasion® RPG Trilogy .

Palladium Fantasy RPG® , First Edition Rules and select 1st Edition sourcebooks.

The Ritter® issues 1-48.

The Best of The Ritter®

Deluxe Revised RECON® RPG and Advanced RECON® Sourcebook .

And more – go to DriveThruRPG.com

2011 Releases

Available Now & Back in Print

- Armageddon Unlimited™ New Available now!

 The Rifter® #53 New Available now!

 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

 Rifts® China One Back in print Available now

 Rifts® Bionics Sourcebook Back in print Available now

 Rifts® Megaverse® Builder Back in print Available now

March 2011 Releases

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

