

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Square Enix Group Announces a New RPG Project “Project Prelude Rune”
Developed by a Newly Established Studio, STUDIO ISTOLIA**

Tokyo, Japan (February 21, 2017) – Square Enix Group, an integrated entertainment company, announced today “*Project Prelude Rune*”, a new role playing game project, developed by STUDIO ISTOLIA CO., LTD., a newly established studio in Tokyo.

STUDIO ISTOLIA further builds on Square Enix Group’s vision to create new intellectual properties alongside existing Square Enix studios. Hideo Baba who has over 18 years of experience in game development will serve as the studio head.

Hideo Baba is working as the producer of “*Project Prelude Rune*” as well. The project aims to build a new RPG with a new fantasy: unfolding across a vast land teeming with life. Nurtured by the earth, the many peoples of this land dare to dream, fighting for what is just—and this is their tale.

Further details on “*Project Prelude Rune*” will be revealed at a later time.



STUDIO ISTOLIA

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The name ISTOLIA originates from the Greek word, “story” and is central to the studio’s primary value. The aim of the studio is to provide unforgettable stories that will inspire players in their own lives, and bring new game experiences to everyone around the world.

For the latest studio news, please visit: <http://www.studioistolia.com>

- Company information

Name: STUDIO ISTOLIA CO., LTD.
Shareholder: 100% owned by Square Enix Holdings Co., Ltd.
Location: Tokyo, Japan
Business Description: Game development

About The Square Enix Group

The Square Enix group of companies leads a diverse range of content and service businesses as an integrated entertainment group. The group develops, publishes, distributes and licenses entertainment content around the world under its internationally renowned brands including SQUARE ENIX®, EIDOS® and TAITO® and operates a global network of leading development studios located in North America, Europe and Japan. The group also boasts a valuable portfolio of intellectual property including: FINAL FANTASY®, which has sold over 130 million units worldwide; DRAGON QUEST®, which has sold over 70 million units worldwide; TOMB RAIDER®, which has sold over 58 million units worldwide; and the legendary SPACE INVADERS®.

More information on the Square Enix group can be found at <http://www.hd.square-enix.com/eng/>

*Unit sales are the total number of cumulative package shipment and digital sales. Digital sales are the cumulative unit number in and after April 2015, and include full-game downloads of packaged games and download-only games for console and PC.

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