

PRESS RELEASE

Media Contact: Jane Lui VIZ Media, LLC jane.lui@viz.com (415) 546-7076 x176

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VIZ MEDIA PARTNERS WITH OVERDRIVE TO PROVIDE POPULAR DIGITAL MANGA TITLES TO LIBRARIES

Acclaimed VIZ Media Manga Series Available For Digital Lending At Participating Libraries With Leading eBook Platform

San Francisco, CA, June 23, 2016 – VIZ Media, LLC (VIZ Media), the largest publisher, distributor and licensor of manga and anime in North America, has announced an agreement with OverDrive to provide a wide variety of its most popular digital manga (graphic novel) titles at participating libraries in the U.S. and Canada.

OverDrive is a leading digital distribution platform, supplying the industry's largest catalog of eBooks, audiobooks, streaming video and periodicals to 34,000 libraries, schools and retailers worldwide, including 90 percent of all public libraries in the U.S.

For the initial manga offerings, OverDrive will feature several popular and awardwinning VIZ Media titles such as NARUTO, DEADMAN WONDERLAND, VAMPIRE KNIGHT, and NEON GENESIS EVANGELION that will be carried by participating libraries on a digital lending basis. The catalog of available manga titles will continue to expand with new series to be added throughout the year; the full list of titles now available may be viewed at **www.overdrive.com/publishers/vizmedia**.

"OverDrive's digital platform offers an innovative, cloud-based and fully scalable channel to offer a diverse selection of age-appropriate digital manga content to library patrons and our partnership with the company will ensure that users have access to some of the most popular titles from the VIZ Media catalog," says Kevin Hamric, Senior Director, Publishing Sales & Marketing, VIZ Media.

"VIZ Media is a proven leader in manga publishing and we are very excited to add some of their most popular series to our service," says Karen Estrovich, Director, Collection Development at OverDrive. "OverDrive delivers a large catalog combined with intuitive, easy to use eReading apps. Manga continues to be one of the most popular categories at libraries and we invite readers to discover all of the exciting new VIZ Media titles with our service."

For more information on VIZ Media manga titles, please visit <u>www.VIZ.com</u>.

About OverDrive

OverDrive is the leading digital distribution platform, supplying the industry's largest catalog of eBooks, audiobooks, streaming video and periodicals to 34,000 libraries and schools worldwide. We support all major computers and devices, including $iOS^{\$}$, AndroidTM, ChromebookTM and Kindle[®] (U.S. only). OverDrive delivers all digital media on a single platform, and offers innovations such as <u>OverDrive Read</u>, the breakthrough EPUB and HTML5 browser-based reading experience, and <u>Read-Along eBooks</u>. Founded in 1986, OverDrive is based in Cleveland, Ohio USA and is owned by Tokyo-based Rakuten. For more information, visit <u>www.overdrive.com</u> or follow us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Pinterest</u> and our <u>blog</u>.

About VIZ Media, LLC

Established in 1986, VIZ Media is the premier company in the field of publishing, animation distribution, and global entertainment licensing. Along with its popular digital magazine WEEKLY SHONEN JUMP and blockbuster properties like NARUTO, DRAGON BALL, SAILOR MOON, and POKÉMON, VIZ Media offers an extensive library of titles and original content in a wide variety of book and video formats, as well as through official licensed merchandise. Owned by three of Japan's largest publishing and entertainment companies, Shueisha Inc., Shogakukan Inc., and Shogakukan-Shueisha Productions, Co., Ltd., VIZ Media is dedicated to bringing the best titles for English-speaking audiences worldwide.

Learn more about VIZ Media and its properties at <u>www.VIZ.com</u>.

###