



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**VIZ MEDIA AND UNITED TALENT AGENCY
ANNOUNCE NEW CONTENT DEVELOPMENT
PARTNERSHIP**

*Nation's Leading Manga & Anime Company Will Work Closely With
Premier International Talent Agency To Develop Live-Action
Content Based On Popular Japanese Entertainment Properties*

San Francisco, CA, March 23, 2016 – VIZ Media, LLC (VIZ Media), the largest publisher, distributor and licensor of manga and anime in North America, has partnered with the premier global talent and literary agency, United Talent Agency (UTA), to develop a diverse range of live-action programming based on titles from VIZ Media's extensive catalog of manga and anime properties.

The partnership will create significant new opportunities to further capitalize on the strong interest in Japanese pop culture and entertainment brands expressed by the Hollywood and international film studio communities, the broadcast industry, and a burgeoning range of emerging multimedia and online content producers.

"We are excited to start this partnership to push the boundaries of storytelling, innovation and character through VIZ Media's prolific portfolio," said UTA's Howie Sanders, Co-Head, Book Department.

"The UTA partnership represents an important new direction for VIZ Media and our colleagues in Japan," says Brad Woods, Chief Marketing Officer of VIZ Media. "Bringing the rich stories of manga and anime to life in new ways is an exciting opportunity with tremendous potential. UTA is an innovator that shares our vision, and their proven track record and strong relationships throughout the domestic and international entertainment sectors will be important factors as we move forward."

VIZ Media is the industry leader in international manga and anime publishing, distribution and licensing. The company's substantial roster includes massively popular titles such as BLEACH, DEATH NOTE, NARUTO, ONE-PUNCH MAN, ONE PIECE and TOKYO GHOUL, which are routinely featured on the BookScan Top 50 and *New York Times* bestseller lists. VIZ Media is the top manga publisher in the U.S. and one of the top three graphic novel publishers overall. Founded in San Francisco in 1986, VIZ Media marks its 30th Anniversary this summer.

For more information on anime and manga titles from VIZ Media, please visit www.VIZ.com.

About United Talent Agency

United Talent Agency is a premier global talent and literary agency representing many of the world's most acclaimed figures in every new and emerging area of entertainment and media, including motion pictures, television, music, digital, broadcast news, books, theatre, video games, fine art and live entertainment. The agency is also globally recognized in the areas of film finance, film packaging, branding, licensing, endorsements and representation of production talent. UTA additionally provides corporate consulting, venture funding and strategic advisory services to companies ranging from start-ups to Fortune 500 companies. In 2015, UTA acquired The Agency Group, the world's largest independent music agency, to form UTA Music, a leading music touring and representation practice. UTA has offices in Los Angeles, New York, London, Nashville, Toronto, Miami and Malmo, Sweden.

About VIZ Media, LLC

Established in 1986, VIZ Media is the premiere 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 www.VIZ.com.

###

Media Contacts

Lisa Stein, United Talent Agency
steinl@unitedtalent.com, 310-385-6766

Erik Jansen, MediaLab for VIZ Media
erik@medialab-pr.com, 714-620-5017