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**NEWS**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**“THE LAST NINJA” THE CLASSIC ACTION GAME  
COMING TO XBOX THIS WINTER**

*With the Latest 3D Graphics and AI, This Action/Adventure Title Will Make “Tenchu 3”  
Look Like Tiny Grasshopper*

LOS ANGELES, E3 EXPO BOOTH F7, May 22, 2002 – Studio 3 Interactive and Simon & Schuster Interactive announced today the award winning, classic game series “The Last Ninja” will be coming to the Xbox™ video game system this winter (Rated: “RP” by the ESRB). Developed by Studio 3 Interactive of London, England this game is based on the legendary game series “The Last Ninja Trilogy” that has sold millions of copies world-wide. It is a tale that pits a lone Ninja warrior against the massed forces of the evil Shogun.

**About “The Last Ninja”**

Gamers play Armakuni, the last surviving member of the greatest Ninja clan during the Edo period of Japan. The clan was destroyed by the evil Shogun, Kunitoki, whose plan is to hold sway over Japan through the use of military might and dark magic. Armakuni's self imposed mission is to free the populace from the grip of Kunitoki's dark powers, defeat all aides and henchmen of the evil Shogun (including demons) and avenge the destruction of the Ninja clan by destroying Kunitoki himself.

While the game is a solitary mission, there is a mentor, Makrin, for the player that acts as a guiding spirit throughout the game. Makrin appears to the player at key trigger points, for example at the beginning of a level, and can also be summoned by the player at specific locations when he needs help. He directs Aramakuni to go to certain places, suggests courses of actions at appropriate times.

THE LAST NINJA is a combination of action, adventure, strategy, exploration, stealth, and combat action. Multiple paths to victory allow gamers to progress through the levels using stealth techniques, ninja magic, or in some cases, brute force. Intelligent AI controls the cinematic, third-person camera. Progress through the game has a supporting narrative that clearly defines start and finish conditions for each level.

### **Availability**

THE LAST NINJA will be available for the Xbox this winter.

### **ESRB Rating**

THE LAST NINJA will be rated by the Entertainment Software Rating Board (ESRB). All advertising and promotional materials currently carry a “RP” or “Rating Pending” logo. More information on the ESRB and its rating system can be found at [www.esrb.org](http://www.esrb.org).

### **Web Site**

More information on THE LAST NINJA can be found at: [www.thelastninja.com](http://www.thelastninja.com).

Xbox and Microsoft are trademarks of Microsoft Corp.

Xbox (<http://www.xbox.com>) is Microsoft's future-generation video game system that delivers new and unforeseen gameplay experiences. With more than three times the graphics performance of the newest generation of game systems, Xbox unleashes game designers' creativity to produce games that are challenging, exhilarating, surprising, and fun.

Studio 3 Interactive is a privately owned, growth oriented interactive entertainment company based in London, England and is a prominent developer and publisher within the European computer and video games industry.

Established by Mark Cale, the talent that represent the heart of the company have built a reputation of creating and publishing quality computer and video games that are always enthusiastically received by game players, young and old, around the world.

Studio 3 is an imagination company; combining creative artistry with the power of computers to create a dazzling world of excitement, exploration and entertainment. In short, a unique blend of the corporate and the creative.

With a richer creative base than its competitors, the company meets the challenge of producing and publishing quality games head-on. The company publishes games for a world wide market, focused on achieving chart-topping success.

Simon & Schuster Interactive ([www.ssinteractive.com](http://www.ssinteractive.com)) is the digital entertainment unit of Simon & Schuster, Inc. Based in New York, S&SI publishes entertainment, education and reference titles for the PC, Macintosh, Pocket PC, Sony Playstation 2®, Microsoft XBox®, Nintendo® Game Boy® Advance, and Nintendo GameCube™.

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