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Natsume Inc. Launching New *Pocky & Rocky* Game Next Year!

Original Development Team Members Are Developing Pocky & Rocky 2021 (Working Title); Sequel to the Original Pocky & Rocky!

Burlingame, CA., September 10, 2020 –NatsumeAtari Inc. and Natsume Inc., a worldwide developer and publisher of family-friendly video games, today announced that *Pocky & Rocky 2021* (working title) will be launching in 2021. The new *Pocky & Rocky* is a sequel to the hugely popular *Pocky & Rocky* on the Super Nintendo Entertainment System (SNES) in the early 1990s.

“We are very excited to be working together with NatsumeAtari and its Tengo Project team to bring the latest chapter of the series to the West!” explained Hiro Maekawa, President and CEO of Natsume Inc. “*Pocky & Rocky 2021* is a sequel that will be released more than two decades after the release of the original title for SNES. We hope that *Pocky & Rocky 2021* will not only cater to fans who used to play the game, but also to new players!”

Pocky & Rocky 2021 is a multi-directional scrolling shooter in the classic 16-bit style with improved graphics, sound, and fun! The adventures of Pocky and Rocky begin again!

Pocky & Rocky 2021 is the third installment in the original shrine maiden shooting series. The new game is being developed by the original development team, Tengo Project.

“It is a joy to continue Pocky and Rocky’s adventures over twenty-five years later with the same development team,” shared Toshiyasu Miyabe, a programmer in the Tengo Project team. “We are excited to be developing *Pocky & Rocky 2021* to reach a new generation of gamers and reconnect with players who are already familiar with the bold pair, Pocky and Rocky, and their fun adventures. Stay tuned in the coming months as we reveal more about the mystery that awaits!”

NatsumeAtari will be exhibiting 奇々怪界黒マントの謎 at the Tokyo Game Show 2020, which takes place online from September 23-27, 2020.

ABOUT POCKY & ROCKY

Pocky & Rocky follows the adventures of a young Shinto shrine maiden named Pocky and her companion, Rocky the raccoon, as they attempt to save a group of creatures known as the Nopino Goblins. Gameplay takes place from a top-down perspective and features both single-player and cooperative modes.

Pocky & Rocky 2021 is a sequel to *Pocky & Rocky*, a sequel to the action-shooting game series Kiki Kaikai, which first appeared as an arcade game from TAITO Corporation in 1986 and is being developed under license from TAITO Corporation.

Players can follow the latest news for all of the beloved Natsume franchises at www.natsume.com and get a scoop on all of the latest Natsume updates, contests, screenshots and more at:



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About Natsume Inc.

Natsume Inc. is a worldwide developer and publisher that specialize in unique and family-oriented interactive entertainment software for a variety of platforms. Most known for publishing Reel Fishing and Harvest Moon, Natsume is dedicated to producing quality video games. For more information about Natsume Inc. visit www.natsume.com

NatsumeAtari Inc.

NatsumeAtari is a Japanese game development company established in 1987. NatsumeAtari is the original developer of the Pocky & Rocky series, and is developing the new game in the series as well.

About TAITO Corporation

TAITO Corporation (TAITO) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Square Enix Holdings Co., Ltd. With headquarters in Tokyo, Japan, TAITO operates core businesses such as game arcade operations, manufacturing coin-operated game machines, and mobile phone content services. A seminal part of gaming history, TAITO caused a worldwide sensation with its arcade legend, SPACE INVADERS, and developed such fan favorites as PUZZLE BOBBLE (BUST-A-MOVE) and ARKANOID. Today, TAITO continues to thrill game lovers of all generations by offering both classic and new family-oriented titles on the latest gaming platforms. TAITO delivers a wide range of entertainment experiences with the goal of providing consumers with fresh surprises and new discoveries.

More information on TAITO can be found on the Internet at <https://www.taito.co.jp/en>.

Press contact for Natsume:

Mika Kelly, mika@soclevercomm.com, 408.693.0176