

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Top Four Cardfight!! Vanguard North American Finalists Heading to Japan to Compete in World Championship 2012**

Anaheim, CA (Nov. 4, 2012) – Bushiroad USA Inc. concluded its North American Championship for the Cardfight!! Vanguard World Championship 2012 series on Sunday, November 4, following two days of tournaments and special events at the Anaheim Convention Center.

Over 750 players participated in Saturday's Cardfight!! Vanguard Los Angeles Qualifiers making it the largest North American Cardfight!! Vanguard tournament to date. Donald Buckley and Masashi Teruyama finished first and second respectively in the qualifiers to capture the last two positions among the 16 finalists competing for the North American Championship, which took place the following day on November 4. Donald Buckley was unable to participate in the finals, and was replaced by third place finisher Anthony Pham.

Both Teruyama and Pham joined finalists who had previously topped Cardfight!! Vanguard qualifiers in Toronto, Dallas, Mexico, Seattle, Chicago, New York, and Atlanta. The North American Finals saw Brandon Smith, the first place finisher from Toronto, going undefeated to win the North American Championship. He will be joined by second place finisher, Christopher Sok, third place finisher Gabriel Espinosa de los Monteros Escobedo, and fourth place finisher Raymond Wong, as they represent North America in the Cardfight!! Vanguard World Championship taking place in Tokyo, Japan on December 9.

Other side events included autograph and panel sessions with voice actors Carol-Anne Day and Roger Rhodes from the *Cardfight!! Vanguard* animated series, and Cardfight!! Vanguard card illustration artist Kazuo Matsushima. Even Bushiroad CEO Takaaki Kidani and Bushiroad SEA President Masayuki Goto actively participated in the festivities facing off against attendees in the Cardfight!! Vanguard Gunslinger event. Also taking place alongside Sunday's championship was a Cardfight!! Vanguard Team Tournament which drew over 400 participants and saw team TKR ELITE (Jon Hoover, Justin Seo, Chris Todd) finish first.

-----

Cardfight!! Vanguard is a popular trading card game developed by Bushiroad Group Publishing Inc. It is currently available in three languages; Japanese, English and Korean.

In July 2012, the first ever Cardfight!! Vanguard World Championship was announced. Between September and October, qualifiers were held worldwide across different multiple regions and countries such as Australia, Germany, Japan, Singapore, Los Angeles, Mexico and more.

The finalists of each region are invited to the Cardfight!! Vanguard World Championship Grand Final held at Tokyo Dome Hotel on December 9, 2012. The winner of the final will be crowned the first ever Cardfight!! Vanguard World Champion.

Bushiroad Group Publishing Inc. consists of 5 sub-entities; Bushiroad Inc., Bushiroad South East Asia Pte Ltd, Bushiroad USA Inc, Hibiki Inc, and New Japan Pro-Wrestling Co., Ltd.

Bushiroad South East Asia Pte Ltd was established in Singapore on November 12, 2012 in order to expand the overseas market for Bushiroad card games such as Cardfight!! Vanguard, Weiß Schwarz, ChaosTCG and Victory Spark.

Bushiroad USA Inc was later established during 2012 in Los Angeles, California, to better cater to the growing demand and interest in Cardfight!! Vanguard from both players and retailers.

-----

Bushiroad (Japanese) - <http://bushiroad.com/>

Bushiroad (English) - <http://bushiroad.fm/>

Cardfight!! Vanguard Website (Japanese) - <http://cf-vanguard.com/>

Cardfight!! Vanguard Website (English) - <http://cf-vanguard.com/en/>

Weiß Schwarz (Japanese) - <http://ws-tcg.com/>

ChaosTCG (Japanese) - <http://chaos-tcg.com/>

Victory Spark - <http://vs-tcg.com/>

Monster Collection - <http://moncolle-tcg.com/>