

By: Yoji Takenaka, Games Editor

Bangai-O Spirits Invade the DS

Acclaimed Japanese puzzler will be brought to us

One of the nicest things about the [Nintendo DS](#) handheld is the fact that it is something like an XBLA for smaller game developers - meaning that, at least in theory, everything is possible and can be released on the platform at pretty low costs. And that is a great advantage, probably one of the most important if we are to think of the success Nintendo's DS has: all sorts of revolutionary, interesting or just different games are being published on the handheld - and "new" is always great when it comes to this virtual universe. Bangai-O Spirits is one of those games that probably don't say too much to you, or the Japanese developers Treasure. Still, this doesn't mean that the game is a bad one. It is a great twist of shooter and puzzle games (if you can imagine something like that!) which challenges you to take some strategic and tactical decisions every now and then. The game also offers competitive multiplayer modes for up to four players via local wireless, a level editor which allows players to edit existing levels or create brand new ones and a completely new ability, never seen before on Nintendo DS: the possibility to transfer data through sound data transfer technology known as Sound Load. We'll surely see it at work when the game is released. "It is an honour to bring a ground-breaking game by a respected developer like TREASURE to game enthusiasts," said Yoji Takenaka, chief operating officer, D3PE. "Bangai-O Spirits contains many key elements that define a truly enjoyable videogame - the innovation in both technology and gameplay make this a must-have title for everyone who owns a DS system.[sic]" As you can see, Bangai-O Spirits is a really promising title that will definitely keep every Nintendo DS owner happy. We're just waiting for a certain release date and everything will be perfect.