



## Pre-Purchase StarCraft® II: Legacy of the Void™ and Play the "Whispers of Oblivion" Prologue Today

*Prepare for the conclusion of the StarCraft II saga and enjoy the ultimate competitive real-time strategy experience—standalone Legacy of the Void to launch by winter*

Heart of the Swarm® also now available as standalone game

IRVINE, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- In 1998, the world was introduced to *StarCraft*®—the groundbreaking science-fiction real-time strategy series about three unique rival species—the terrans, zerg, and protoss—locked into a perpetual war to secure their place in the galaxy. Now, 17 years later, the stunning conclusion to the *StarCraft* saga is almost here . . . and a new era for the ultimate competitive real-time strategy game is set to begin.

This Smart News Release features multimedia. View the full release here:

<http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20150715006343/en/>

*Legacy of the Void*™, the standalone conclusion to the *StarCraft II* trilogy, will arrive by winter, and players can pre-purchase the game now via the official [Legacy of the Void website](#). Featuring a galaxy-spanning protoss campaign and new multiplayer features such as the cooperative **Allied Commanders** and **Archon Mode** that give battlefield generals of all stripes whole new ways to play, *Legacy of the Void* is being built to deliver the ultimate *StarCraft II* experience. Pre-purchase digitally through [Battle.net](#)® now, and you'll gain immediate access to all three **"Whispers of Oblivion" prologue missions** featuring the legendary Dark Templar Zeratul. Those who pre-purchase digitally or lock in their pre-order at select retailers will also gain entry to the ongoing **Legacy of the Void beta test**.

"With *Legacy of the Void*, we're giving some of Blizzard's most iconic characters an unforgettable sendoff and delivering the climactic *StarCraft* finale players deserve," said Mike Morhaime, CEO and cofounder of Blizzard Entertainment. "At the same time, we're excited to bring *StarCraft II* multiplayer into a whole new era with a host of major new gameplay modes and enhancements—we can't wait to see what the future holds for *StarCraft II* competition."

### Multiple Editions Warping In

*Legacy of the Void* will come in a Standard Edition (physical and digital versions available), which players can pre-purchase now digitally for \$39.99. Players also have the option to upgrade their pre-purchase to the Digital Deluxe Edition (\$59.99), which will unlock a variety of in-game bonuses for Blizzard games (available upon *Legacy of the Void*'s release), including:

- **Archon battle pet** ready to join your side in *World of Warcraft*®
- **Void Seeker mount** to charge through the Nexus in *Heroes of the Storm*
- **Protoss card back** to demonstrate your psionic potential in *Hearthstone*®
- **Protoss-themed portraits and unit skin** for *StarCraft II*

*Legacy of the Void* will also be available in a retail-exclusive Collector's Edition, which comes equipped with the digital bonus items from the Digital Deluxe Edition, as well as a special edition of the upcoming full-color hardcover *StarCraft Field Manual* (retail edition SRP \$45); a DVD loaded with cinematics and special features; and a CD soundtrack. The Collector's Edition will be available at select retailers for a suggested retail price of \$79.99. Players should check their local retailer for details and availability and be sure to lock in their preorder, as supplies are limited.

In addition, anyone who purchases or pre-purchases any edition of the expansion will also unlock access to an upcoming, yet-to-be-revealed **StarCraft Warrior Hero** in *Heroes of the Storm*™, Blizzard's recently released free-to-play team brawler.

### Your Life for Aiur!

Picking up where *Heart of the Swarm*® left off, *Legacy of the Void* casts you in the role of Hierarch Artanis, leader of the

technologically advanced protoss race. Years ago, the protoss homeworld of Aiur fell to the merciless zerg Swarm. Now, you have raised a powerful fleet of warships known as the Golden Armada and are poised to reclaim your world. But an ancient evil threatens your destiny and the fate of the entire Koprulu Sector. The galaxy's only hope is for you to reunite the protoss factions and defeat the coming darkness.

To whet players' appetites before the launch of the full campaign, a special action-packed prologue titled "**Whispers of Oblivion**" bridges the storyline between *Heart of the Swarm* and *Legacy of the Void*. In these missions, players will join Zeratul to unravel the mysteries of the Xel'naga prophecy. Whispers of Oblivion will be available to everyone free of charge before the *Legacy of the Void* launch, but players who pre-purchase now will receive instant access to all three prologue missions in the *Legacy of the Void* beta test.

*Legacy of the Void*<sup>™</sup>, the third and final chapter in the *StarCraft II* saga, is a standalone game, meaning you'll be able to purchase, play, and harness the power of the protoss without owning any previous entries in the series.

### **Definitive StarCraft II Multiplayer Experience**

In addition to the single-player campaign, *Legacy of the Void* will feature a host of new features that will make it the ultimate *StarCraft* multiplayer experience. Two heads are better than one, and **Archon Mode** applies this maxim to competitive gaming. In this brand-new two-player mode, players merge together to become a greater, unified force by sharing control over a single base. It's the perfect mode for rookies to learn tactics from seasoned veterans—and a fun way to amplify the power of a burgeoning all-star.

**Allied Commanders** is a new, open-ended game mode with campaign-style objectives that breathes new life into the *StarCraft* cooperative experience. Here, each player will choose a powerful commander to lead their favorite army into battle and fight in diverse scenarios with dynamic, campaign-style objectives. Players can then level up these commanders to gain access to new units, abilities, and customization options for their armies.

The thrill of competing in a *StarCraft II* tournament is like no other gaming experience around, and *Legacy of the Void* makes it easier than ever for everyone to get in on the action. With **Automated Tournaments**, players from around the world can prove their might in no-holds-barred daily online competitions. Tournaments will be held for players of all skill levels, unlocking the potential for anyone to feel the excitement of surviving through elimination rounds and clawing their way to victory.

### **Heart of the Swarm Goes Standalone**

For players who haven't yet played the first *StarCraft II* expansion, *Heart of the Swarm*, it just became a little easier to stage a zerg rush. Starting today, the original *StarCraft II: Wings of Liberty* is no longer required to play *Heart of the Swarm*—making this the perfect time to catch up on Kerrigan's story and command a host of additional multiplayer units for all three factions.

*Legacy of the Void* will be released for Windows<sup>®</sup> and Mac<sup>®</sup> PC. Visit [www.starcraft2.com](http://www.starcraft2.com) to learn more.

With multiple games in development, Blizzard Entertainment has numerous positions currently available—visit <http://jobs.blizzard.com> for more information and to learn how to apply.

For screenshots, artwork, and other media, visit <http://blizzard.gamespress.com/StarCraft>.

### **About Blizzard Entertainment, Inc.**

Best known for blockbuster hits including *World of Warcraft*<sup>®</sup> and the *Warcraft*<sup>®</sup>, *StarCraft*<sup>®</sup>, and *Diablo*<sup>®</sup> franchises, Blizzard Entertainment, Inc. ([www.blizzard.com](http://www.blizzard.com)), a division of Activision Blizzard (NASDAQ: ATVI), is a premier developer and publisher of entertainment software renowned for creating some of the industry's most critically acclaimed games. Blizzard Entertainment's track record includes nineteen #1 games\* and multiple Game of the Year awards. The company's online-gaming service, [Battle.net](http://Battle.net)<sup>®</sup>, is one of the largest in the world, with millions of active players.

*\*Sales and/or downloads, based on internal company records and reports from key distribution partners.*

### **Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-looking Statements:**

Information in this press release that involves Blizzard Entertainment's expectations, plans, intentions or strategies regarding the future, including release windows and details about *Legacy of the Void*, are forward-looking statements that are not facts and involve a number of risks and uncertainties. Factors that could cause Blizzard Entertainment's actual future results to differ materially from those expressed in the forward-looking statements set forth in this release include unanticipated product delays and other factors identified in the risk factors sections of Activision Blizzard's most recent annual report on Form 10-K and any

subsequent quarterly reports on Form 10-Q. The forward-looking statements in this release are based upon information available to Blizzard Entertainment and Activision Blizzard as of the date of this release, and neither Blizzard Entertainment nor Activision Blizzard assumes any obligation to update any such forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements believed to be true when made may ultimately prove to be incorrect. These statements are not guarantees of the future performance of Blizzard Entertainment or Activision Blizzard and are subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors, some of which are beyond its control and may cause actual results to differ materially from current expectations.

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Source: Blizzard Entertainment, Inc.

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