Subject: Newbie coming in
Posted by Istrebitel on Thu, 26 May 2011 05:39:05 GMT
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Greetings.

I absolutely LOVE this game's multiplayer. I thought its the best in the world, really, when it just came out. Unfortunately, died out pretty fast in computer clubs (internet caffe's you call them) of Russia.

Now i never ever thought that it would still be played online!

I'd love to join!

However, there is a problem: serial number.
You might guess, there is just ZERO chance to buy legal copy of C&C:R in Russia. It NEVER was sold here! Only pirated copies were ever in shops those days.
And this game is not available as digital download, like, at all. Googled for half an hour.

Now, i found out some XWIS site following a tutorial on wiki, that says "dont have a serial - buy one from us" and then paypal offers me to buy a 10 euro ACCOUNT from XWIS...
Is it not a fraud, right? What am i buying then? What is this "account"? Do i receive a serial for every game XWIS server supports? Or what? How do i install my game if i buy from them - from TPB with a keygen?

Second problem: i wouldnt hesitate to pay for this great game if i would be sure its working, i mean, there are still people online, ping is good, game is playable for me (i dont know if servers are in USA, Europe or whatever, so dont know what latency i'd have). I dont want to pay 10 euro and find out that i cannot play it anyway since its in USA and my ping is over nine thousand. Or that there is like 3 people online tops and they're in USA so theyre on when i sleep. Or something.

Is there any tiny option to check before i buy? Like, can i keygen a serial, use it to check, then buy a real one if it works? Or i absolutely have to pay for something that might be absolutely useless to me?

And i also got a question: Is this XWIS the place everybody plays C&C R multiplayer? Maybe i'm mistaken and there is some other common hideout? ITs just too hard to find any information about that, really, there are news about recreation of renegade on unreal engine, about total conversions, but no info about what people actually play out there and how...

Subject: Re: Newbie coming in
Posted by danpaul88 on Thu, 26 May 2011 09:52:22 GMT
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XWIS is indeed the multiplayer lobby for Renegade, they took over the old Westwood OnLine service a few years back when EA decided they couldn't be bothered to host it anymore.

There are several servers hosted in Europe, so if you get high pings connecting to the USA you might have better luck with those.

XWIS do indeed sell serials though their website control panel from what I can tell, but as I have never personally used the XWIS website I can't give you any more information than that. I am sure someone else will be able to give you some advice about that possibility.

One option is to download the A Path Beyond total conversion for the W3D engine, it's a standalone game with its own launcher and servers so you don't need a serial key or Renegade installation to play that. Head on over to http://www.bluehellproductions.com/ if your interested.

Subject: Re: Newbie coming in
Posted by Goztow on Thu, 26 May 2011 10:09:32 GMT
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I sent you a PM.

Subject: Re: Newbie coming in
Posted by iRANian on Thu, 26 May 2011 11:51:47 GMT
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There are a bunch of nice European Renegade servers but I don't think there are any European AOW or Marathon ones (AOW is the "normal" game mode of the game, and Marathon is that same game mode but without time limit). From what I've seen the only European servers with a nice player count are Co-Op servers and Death match servers.

A Path Beyond, the stand-alone Red Alert First Person Shooter that danpaul linked, does have a European "AOW" server that has a nice player count.

There's a server listing utility that shows all the players on GSA without requiring you to own the game as far as I know. It's called RenList, and you can download it here. Just open the program, if it asks for anything just ignore it and open the 'GSA' tab, it should show a list. It doesn't show which country the servers are hosted in but it does show the ping for every single one of them.

Subject: Re: Newbie coming in
Posted by Istrebitel on Thu, 26 May 2011 13:50:33 GMT
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Wait, you mean nobody plays the "storm enemy base, protect your base" Renegade anymore but its all just... deathmatch or coop?

Subject: Re: Newbie coming in
Posted by iRANian on Thu, 26 May 2011 16:38:15 GMT
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No, I mean there are no active European servers for that, only USA servers.

Subject: Re: Newbie coming in
Posted by Istrebitel on Thu, 26 May 2011 21:23:52 GMT
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How do i play on gamespy? when i try to click join in the game, it closes the game and opens some page that offers me to pay 10 $ to gamespy for some subsctiption?...

Subject: Re: Newbie coming in
Posted by iRANian on Thu, 26 May 2011 22:05:01 GMT
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Use RenList or Renegade Resurrection, RenList is the program I mentioned a previous post of mine in this topic and Renegade Resurrection is a modified version of the game client that adds some improvements and has a special launcher program which uses the GameSpy list.

Subject: Re: Newbie coming in
Posted by Goztow on Fri, 27 May 2011 09:09:01 GMT
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For someone that doesn't mind paying for a game, you do a lot not to have to pay for it.

Subject: Re: Newbie coming in
Posted by Istrebitel on Fri, 27 May 2011 11:49:09 GMT
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Obviously, because i went through it before! And gained some XP you know... IRL

First i was paying for games. In Russia. Like 15 years ago. Then i learned i didnt pay for legal games but for illegal copies. It was impossible to obtain legal copies of games in Russia 10-15 years ago. At all.

So i went to become a pirate. Why pay for illegal copies anyway if you can do it for free? Then i understood alot of the shit out there wasnt worth paying a dime for. You pay for laggy crappy made buggy game that is even not fully playabe until a patch arives month later after you paid for it... Aha, aha.

Then i grew up and met games like World of Warcraft, that DELIVER. You pay, but you get for what you paid for. You get support, customer care, neat box etc. But then, not every game is like that.

And then i once again paid for some games that are just useless. Legal or illegal doesnt bother me, it bothers me
a) where my money go
b) what do i get for it

With Renegade, obviously that i do not want ever to buy a game since the money wont go to the great developers that made this great game (and other great C&C titles) but to damn idiot company EA which DESTROYED Westwood Studios. Do i wanna pay someone who destroyed what i love? Obviously not.

If i am asked to pay to a guy who allows me to play this game, pay for the servers i play on, i would agree to do that.
BUT!
I want some proof that i can use those servers first. Dont you check that you can use the new phone before you buy it? Dont you mindlessly pay for a new car without checking it inside out just because you know that its protected by laws and insured - if they sold you a junk deliberatly, they'll pay for that and on top for your expenses, if it somehow breaks, they'll fix it for free. Here, i cant feel that protection.

I dont want to end up like i did month ago when i bought Minecraft - a superb great mega game, but:
- total 0 support or any customer care
- for an odd reason, i cannot host a server nor can i play via my router, it adds a 5 second delay, however every other internet game or protocol runs FINE!
- for another odd reason, it runs 2-3 fps spikes on a pc that runs WoW and other current games on normal-low graphic settings flawlessly
- and for my money i got no actual multiplayer, but a headache to find a server to play on, which will also probably cost money and will actualy never require a licensed version of the game from me...

So all i am looking for is a way to find out if i can actually play it before i pay for it. Or a way to get money back if i cannot play it after i paid for it. Second is not an option i presume, so only first applies.

And obviously i dont want to pay for some scam or something totally unrelated to my activity.

Like the gamespy - it asked me to pay, but suddenly, with a program, i can connect w/o paying. WTf? If this is a hack, and i actualy will enjoy playing the servers, i will not continue to use the hack, but pay. But i think, that page was just a catch to pay for something i totally dont need at all and wont use at all. Ever. Would be foolish to pay for that, no?

Subject: Re: Newbie coming in

Posted by Istrebitel on Fri, 27 May 2011 11:53:27 GMT
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Back on topic, i tried Renegade Resurrection, but the website is just a link and no info. Is there any site that provides support or manual?

1. First of all, it seems not to accept my 1600x1200 resolution, but there is no notion which is the max one.
2. Then, there is a tick "run with ressurection" which does... what exactly?
3. Then, how do i know which is the country of the server. Only by ping? If so, there are only american servers there i think since all servers with people are ~220ms, those that are ~50ms have no ppl in...
4. Are theese actually gamespy servers? Why doesnt it require any Gamespy registration then? can someone explain the topology or scheme of this system of server relationship? What i was asked to pay for those 10$ then, if i can play theese for free? Are there better servers that are paid for?
5. Sometimes, i cannot connect to a server that has ppl in it, it just hangs forever in the game "connecting" screen. But server is there, has ppl playing in it, can be pinged all right, and then i played on another server, some time passed, i came back and it works, i joined successfully! Server was far from full also (like 9/50) when it didnt accept me.

Subject: Re: Newbie coming in
Posted by danpaul88 on Fri, 27 May 2011 13:15:18 GMT
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Istrebitel wrote on Fri, 27 May 2011 12:53
5. Sometimes, i cannot connect to a server that has ppl in it, it just hangs forever in the game "connecting" screen. But server is there, has ppl playing in it, can be pinged all right, and then i played on another server, some time passed, i came back and it works, i joined successfully! Server was far from full also (like 9/50) when it didnt accept me.

Actually the server might have really been full. 9/50 means 9 people have joined via XWIS on that server out of 50 player slots. It doesn't mean there are only 9 people in the server because it doesn't count people connecting via direct connections etc.

Bit of a wierd 'gotcha' resulting from the fact Westwood never really designed the FDS to properly support direct connect (ie: GSA) and XWIS at the same time...

Subject: Re: Newbie coming in
Posted by Goztow on Fri, 27 May 2011 18:24:13 GMT
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I can understand your reasoning but it's not a 50 € new game here, but a 5 € old game .
There's a difference between buying a car you might not like and a piece of candy you might not like .

Subject: Re: Newbie coming in
Posted by zunnie on Sun, 29 May 2011 13:36:46 GMT
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You dont need a valid serial to play Renegade online.

Subject: Re: Newbie coming in
Posted by Hypnos on Mon, 30 May 2011 01:23:29 GMT
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zunnie wrote on Sun, 29 May 2011 14:36You dont need a valid serial to play Renegade online.

However he needs one which is not banned nor affiliated with any other players...

Subject: Re: Newbie coming in
Posted by zunnie on Mon, 30 May 2011 04:41:39 GMT
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That i can't provide on this forum here.