Subject: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by light on Wed, 02 Nov 2005 08:23:26 GMT

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Hi,

I have been looking at why I don't use RenGuard, and it came down to two factors. The one BHS can help with is my 2nd one, The interface.

What I am requesting is BHS consider an RG 'Lite' version.

The idea behind it is to make RG as invisible and unobtrusive as possible. A simple popup when you run Renegade could display "RenGuard Connected", and an ok button, click ok, and Renegade loads. (And an error if RG doesn't connect)

Heck, why not go further and just play 'connected' and 'disconnected' sounds (like TeamSpeak), save having to click anthing at all.

Another option I like is to overlay the connection dialog on Renegade, the same way TeamSpeak Overlay does it. (Dunno how exactly, but can't hurt to suggest)

All extra options (Install CP1, RenGuard sounds, etc.) are disabled by default, save unticking them.

The RenGuard website doesn't load, saving time and bandwidth. (A tiny amount, but the idea is minimalist.)

I'm sure there are more, but I haven't run RG in a while, so I can't remember then all.

I think a minimalist (read: Almost Invisible) RenGuard would make me more willing to run it, rather than the current (1.03) interface.

Even if you don't take all/any of these ideas, at least I can say i've tried to make RenGuard better (in my opinion)

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by Kanezor on Wed, 02 Nov 2005 08:55:00 GMT

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Personally, I really like the idea. You should convince others of the idea as well.

Even if you do, I highly doubt it will make it into RenGuard 1.04 though. Maybe the next version of RenGuard, assuming that there is one.

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by Blazer on Wed, 02 Nov 2005 08:55:12 GMT
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RG already has an option to make it invisible, it silently runs in the system tray and launches renegade for you.

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by Kytten9 on Wed, 02 Nov 2005 08:57:11 GMT
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Blazer wrote on Wed, 02 November 2005 03:55RG already has an option to make it invisible, it silently runs in the system tray and launches renegade for you.

That's what I use

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by light on Wed, 02 Nov 2005 09:04:07 GMT
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Blazer wrote on Wed, 02 November 2005 21:55RG already has an option to make it invisible, it silently runs in the system tray and launches renegade for you.

Perhaps more advertising of that fact then? I never knew it was possible. Would it take much to add a 'lite' option to the installer, to make it easier to use? (I don't know how you store settings, but I preume a config file of sorts shouldn't be that hard to edit for a minimalist look out-of-the-box.

How about the overlay option? I would prefer to see the connection info as I login through Renegade, rather than as a popup at the start.

I wasn't intending this to be included in 1.04, but it only just occured to me to suggest it, so i just made a topic.

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by Goztow on Wed, 02 Nov 2005 09:05:53 GMT
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Hmmm I think he means the "autorun renegade on startup"-option???

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by Kanezor on Wed, 02 Nov 2005 09:38:25 GMT

Goztow wrote on Wed, 02 November 2005 04:05Hmmm I think he means the "autorun renegade on startup"-option???
Indeed Blazer does mean that. There's no other option in RenGuard currently that is similar to what light is describing.

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by Crimson on Wed, 02 Nov 2005 09:50:00 GMT

I would rather make it optional to do that. I spent/spend a lot of time maintaining the MOTD/web page content and I'd much rather have people at least give it a look and decide if they want to continue to see it rather than picking "light version" in the installer and never seeing it at all.

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by Kytten9 on Wed, 02 Nov 2005 12:23:27 GMT

There are like 3 options I think 1 is auto run on start up, which I use as I previously stated. 2nd is the ability to place a password there so that Renguard will auto identify the user on any servers they may be moderators on and last one is playing Audio (I think) If you choose not to have that then you don't hear the RG audio when you join an RG server!

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by Scythar on Wed, 02 Nov 2005 12:26:42 GMT

Yep, the News section is quite invaluable for the players who never check the boards.

By the way, you could add the Renegade Wiki as a link in the Renguard window. (Or at least put it in the news). Of course you have to be careful not to bloat it, but basically people either read the news with interest or they don't read them at all. Shoudn't be a problem.

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by Crimson on Wed, 02 Nov 2005 13:04:04 GMT

Yeah, I think the wiki is far enough along that we can start doing that...

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by light on Wed, 02 Nov 2005 19:35:32 GMT
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Well how about just releasing it here then. I don't mind if you don't want to stick it on RenGuard.com or integrate it, but I would much prefer a minimial installer in some shape or form.

Surely you can put one up on these forums?

(As for checking the RG page, I don't check anything thats given to me. This includes the RG web page. If I want to know whats going on, I actively search for the information)

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by Blazer on Wed, 02 Nov 2005 23:26:36 GMT
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There is an option to minimize and auto-launch Renegade for you, which makes RG pretty much invisible. We do have the option though, of forcing it to pop up, for emergency broadcasts such as maintenance/outage announcements and the like. I don't think we have ever used that.

There are plenty of people (most I would dare say), that do not run Renguard in the hidden mode, and they at least glance at the MOTD page which is updated often with news about RenGuard and Renegade happenings. If you don't want to see the MOTD, then just turn on the autostart option. You still get an audio cue when you join an RG-enabled server.

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by light on Thu, 03 Nov 2005 00:16:24 GMT
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I will bear this in mind if I decide to use 1.04, however, I intend to wait for feedback from others before using it.

Thanks for all the replies, they've been helpful.

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by Kytten9 on Thu, 03 Nov 2005 00:22:06 GMT
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Blazer wrote on Wed, 02 November 2005 18:26There is an option to minimize and auto-launch Renegade for you, which makes RG pretty much invisible. We do have the option though, of forcing it to pop up, for emergency broadcasts such as maintenance/outage announcements and the like. I don't think we have ever used that.

There are plenty of people (most I would dare say), that do not run Renguard in the hidden mode,

and they at least glance at the MOTD page which is updated often with news about RenGuard and Renegade happenings. If you don't want to see the MOTD, then just turn on the autostart option. You still get an audio cue when you join an RG-enabled server.

I see it when I leave ren

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by Blazer on Thu, 03 Nov 2005 00:38:09 GMT
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light wrote on Wed, 02 November 2005 19:16I will bear this in mind if I decide to use 1.04, however, I intend to wait for feedback from others before using it.

Thanks for all the replies, they've been helpful.

why wait for 1.04? The option is there now in 1.03

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by Blazer on Thu, 03 Nov 2005 00:40:00 GMT
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Kytten9 wrote on Wed, 02 November 2005 19:22Blazer wrote on Wed, 02 November 2005 18:26There is an option to minimize and auto-launch Renegade for you, which makes RG pretty much invisible. We do have the option though, of forcing it to pop up, for emergency broadcasts such as maintenance/outage announcements and the like. I don't think we have ever used that.

There are plenty of people (most I would dare say), that do not run Renguard in the hidden mode, and they at least glance at the MOTD page which is updated often with news about RenGuard and Renegade happenings. If you don't want to see the MOTD, then just turn on the autostart option. You still get an audio cue when you join an RG-enabled server.

I see it when I leave ren

Ah yeah you are right...forgot about that. It pops up when you leave renegade so that it can display the server-owners MOTD. Nobody has complained about that feature, that I know of.

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by light on Thu, 03 Nov 2005 00:43:46 GMT
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Blazer wrote on Thu, 03 November 2005 13:38why wait for 1.04? The option is there now in 1.03

Because of a few of the bugs that will be fixed on 1.04, plus I won't be playing in a clan match until 1.04 is out, so why download an inferior version. (Saves having to update too)

I'd prefer for it not to load the site at all. If I deny RenGuard access to port 80 using my firewall, will this cause any issues other than not displaying the website?

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by Blazer on Thu, 03 Nov 2005 00:50:45 GMT
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It wouldn't be able to fetch the MOTD, so you would most likely get an empty window pane...isn't an empty window as "obtrusive", or even moreso than one with useful information?

Also if you blocked port 80 RG woudln't be able to auto-update itself, or download any core patches (assuming you wanted to). The actual anti-cheat communication with the RG network happens on a different port.

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by Kanezor on Thu, 03 Nov 2005 00:57:24 GMT
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light wrote on Wed, 02 November 2005 18:43Blazer wrote on Thu, 03 November 2005 13:38why wait for 1.04? The option is there now in 1.03

Because of a few of the bugs that will be fixed on 1.04, plus I won't be playing in a clan match until 1.04 is out, so why download an inferior version. (Saves having to update too)
Remember that the upcoming beta is a private beta. You probably won't be in it unless you have some significant problems which BHS would like specifically you to test, or unless you've been kind enough to donate $20 or more. There are still a lot of kinks to work out in RenGuard 1.04 before it's released to more than just a few people. You could be waiting for several more weeks, at best. I hope you're patient...

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by light on Thu, 03 Nov 2005 01:18:08 GMT
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Kanezor wrote on Thu, 03 November 2005 13:57I hope you're patient...

Yes, I am patient. I may have to resort to 1.03 if I need to, but I don't see it coming to that.

As far as the screen vs. website goes, you are correct, a blank window would still be annoying. No

chance of having the GUI edited to remove that pane? (pain?)

I was aware that you use 6300 for most RG communication, I just wanted to make sure that you didn't use 80 for anything necessary.

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by Scorpio9a on Thu, 03 Nov 2005 18:24:32 GMT
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Port 80 is required to be open or else it wouldn't even be able to connect to the network.

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by TD on Thu, 03 Nov 2005 21:22:30 GMT
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I really like this idea, that is why my renguard looks like this:

What lite version should be like:

- You can make the dimensions better of course, than that screenshot. Maybe 200x200. Smaller if buttons and things mentioned below fit easily and a huge space is still there...
- Make buttons smaller
- Options default to the first screenshot. Options button removed.
- Put a small password field on main window.
- No site loading, instead put a MOTD where it said Options before.
- Now that background is white, you could give it some nice colors
- Make it say connected/disconnected (also with the colors like in ss) in the status bar.
- Remove the windows bar, that blue thing with the minus, square, x.
- Put a small button (smaller than other buttons) in the 200*200 dimension window (top right maybe) which will minimize the window.
- Version name would be: Renguard 1.05L, mention this somewhere top.

That's what I always dreamed of since Renguard was made.

EDIT: Now that I think of, you could make an options button, but make options window smaller than RG window is, and put Auto Run and Password field there, with OK button (no need for cancel actually, and no windows buttons either like x, minus).
But Core patch button, still a big NO, we can download it ourself if we want, I do not like the idea of auto updates, especially when they're big...

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by Ma1kel on Thu, 03 Nov 2005 22:10:47 GMT
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Yes, no site loading will make RenGuard faster on load up.

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by light on Thu, 03 Nov 2005 23:51:07 GMT
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TD wrote on Fri, 04 November 2005 10:22I really like this idea, that is why my renguard looks like this:

What lite version should be like:

Thats exactly what I am after. Something that gives you the options, but is unobtrusive.

How does yours diaplay like that? If it is an edited .exe, has it been ok'ed by BHS, in which case, may I have a copy?

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by Areilius on Fri, 04 Nov 2005 05:12:00 GMT
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RenGuard startup is SLOW, and it gets annoying. Loading the GUI, webpage and connecting to the servers all at the same time slows the startup down a fair bit.

The background, title banner and sidebar graphics could just be part of the program, so all that needs to be downloaded each startup is TEXT (way faster).

Having it connect to servers AFTER Renegade is clicked would be better, or you could delay it by a few seconds to give the program a chance to load. Watching this white box thing slowly load it's controls and border is annoying.

RG being gay:

Having it connect AFTER you click means you could have a textbox to change the nick to login with if you need to.

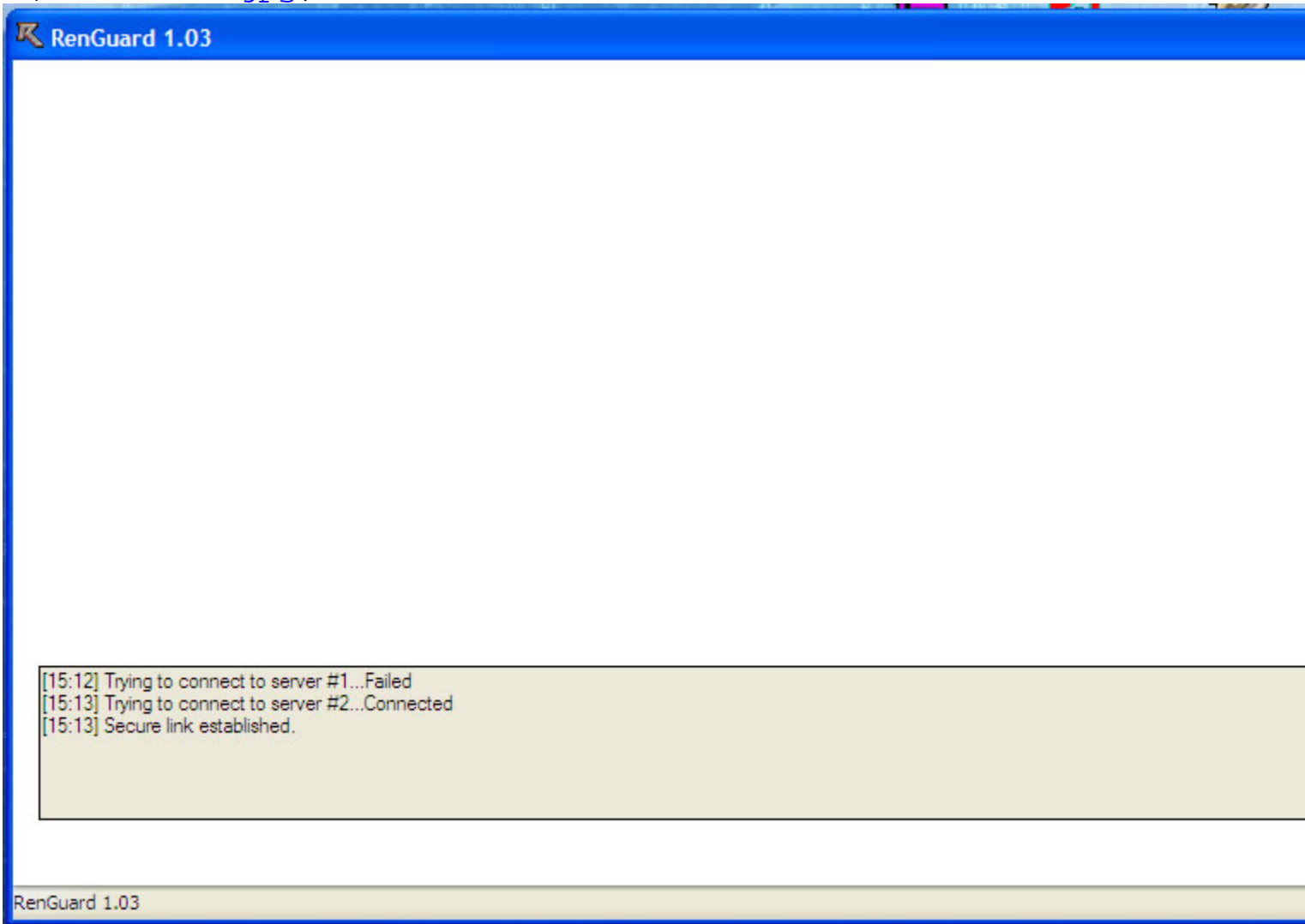And the whole window is too big.

RG sexified:

And when it's connected it minimizes and Renegade opens.

We want a Renguard Lite!

File Attachments
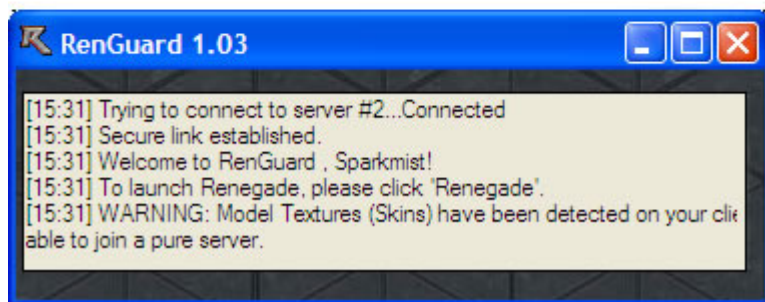1) unloaded.jpg, downloaded 666 times


```
[15:12] Trying to connect to server #1...Failed
[15:13] Trying to connect to server #2...Connected
[15:13] Secure link established.
```

RenGuard 1.03

2) Untitled-1.jpg, downloaded 661 times

And when you click Renegade.....

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by Goztow on Fri, 04 Nov 2005 07:46:59 GMT
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I quite like the idea but i understand why

1. Not done yet in 1.03 -> remember, this was the first version that was really finished and protection was the key issue, not interface

2. Not done since then -> if noone had tried to bypass, this would already exist but there are much bigger priorities for the moment.

==> maybe after core patch 2 will be released .

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by TD on Fri, 04 Nov 2005 08:06:01 GMT
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light wrote on Fri, 04 November 2005 00:51Thats exactly what I am after. Something that gives you the options, but is unobtrusive.

How does yours diaplay like that? If it is an edited .exe, has it been ok'ed by BHS, in which case, may I have a copy?

Resize window with t3h mouse.

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by Goztow on Fri, 04 Nov 2005 08:07:32 GMT
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TD wrote on Fri, 04 November 2005 03:06light wrote on Fri, 04 November 2005 00:51Thats exactly what I am after. Something that gives you the options, but is unobtrusive.

How does yours diaplay like that? If it is an edited .exe, has it been ok'ed by BHS, in which case, may I have a copy?

Resize window with t3h mouse.
Won't makei t faster to load though . But it takes less place indd.

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by JPNOD on Fri, 04 Nov 2005 08:57:19 GMT
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I like this idea.
It's nice to see the icon in the taskbar.
But the bad thing is, usally when my game crashes. Due to overheating and the combination of Ren being instable sometimes. Let's say when you watch the score's of the teams and you press JOIN really fast. Sometimes the games crashes. And the first thing you see is the Renguard popup in the middle of the screen. Another example your game crashes ingame. And then you see it again.
Would it be possible to just make it so that you don't see this at all that it just stay minimized in tray?
If it takes to much time or effort, then it wouldn't matter a tiny bit if a light or whatever won't hapen because afterall it's to protect the people from cheaters, and the eye candy around does it really matter?.
Keep up the good work.

Offtopic:
Some time ago, a other Windows before a other format. I had GSA and RG installed. But the strange thing was it didn't display the add's in GSA and it didn't display the website in the Renguard Window.

That was probably the only time I found it ok using GSA because I just wouldn't see anything of the add's nor the pages just the things you use, GDI barack, agt, hand of nod ecta at the lobby. I never found out how that came but it owned. Is it possible to not show the website in RG? because I read forum's/mainsite anyways.

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by TD on Fri, 04 Nov 2005 09:30:32 GMT

Lite also means small dimensions for me. At least, if I make it small, it doesn't look like it is loading a site and it looks like Renguard is trying to connect to Renguard, instead of loading a site along with it. Looks cooler if it is this small too.

You get the idea.

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by light on Fri, 04 Nov 2005 09:45:32 GMT

I'm glad to see i'm not alone in my opinion.

I can't see how hard it will be. I have done some GUI work in Java, and taking stuff out it much easier than putting stuff in. (That said, Java is not like all languages)

We can only hope BHS offer something like this.

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by TD on Fri, 04 Nov 2005 11:21:47 GMT

Seeing that many people want this:

- Core Patch option removed, we can download ourself
- Options button removed
- Smaller interface
- No Site loading
- Instead, MOTD button where it said buttons
- Password and auto-run entry on the main window... (if it cant, a small, small, small option button somewhere, and a small window pops up.)

That's what many people want. But of course the release of 1.04 comes first. 1.05 could have both a normal version and lite version. (I think, if we have a lite version, normal version would be obsolete, so consider this light version as the better and faster version of Renguard...)

No functions are removed and it's faster and easier..

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by light on Fri, 04 Nov 2005 20:39:52 GMT
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It doesn't have to wait for 1.05

Once 1.04 is released, the basic functionality isn't going to be changed for a lite, just the GUI. I don't see a huge issue in BHS waiting to ensure 1.04 is stable then (so long as they have the time), editing the GUI.

But that is a nice list of things I would like to see.

BHS: Is there a formal way to approach this? Some kind of Poll perhaps?

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by Scorpio9a on Sat, 05 Nov 2005 09:18:58 GMT
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Nice idea and all, but here are some test results:

RenGuard 1.04 Full - 3.0 seconds startup time. (ready to start renegade with html loaded)
RenGuard 1.04 Lite - 2.2 seconds startup time. (ready to start renegade)

Lite has the sound system completely disabled and no html control at all. I am sure we can live with 0.8 seconds imo, again i like the idea, but is it worth the 0.8 seconds that you hardly notice?

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by light on Sat, 05 Nov 2005 09:45:35 GMT
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If it loads in the background whilst Renegade is launching, it amounts to basically 0.5 seconds.

Add to that the smaller GUI (just the buttons etc.), which is mainly for aesthetics, and you end up with a minimalist option that quite a few people would go for.

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by Scorpio9a on Sat, 05 Nov 2005 10:03:08 GMT
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light wrote on Sat, 05 November 2005 04:45If it loads in the background whilst Renegade is

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launching, it amounts to basically 0.5 seconds.

Add to that the smaller GUI (just the buttons etc.), which is mainly for aesthetics, and you end up with a minimalist option that quite a few people would go for.

It wouldn't, considering Renegade would be very very slow when starting while RenGuard is busy scanning everything.

Just resize the window and you have your small view with only what you want.

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by TD on Sat, 05 Nov 2005 10:56:58 GMT
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Scorpio9a wrote on Sat, 05 November 2005 10:18Nice idea and all, but here are some test results:

RenGuard 1.04 Full - 3.0 seconds startup time. (ready to start renegade with html loaded)
RenGuard 1.04 Lite - 2.2 seconds startup time. (ready to start renegade)

Lite has the sound system completely disabled and no html control at all. I am sure we can live with 0.8 seconds imo, again i like the idea, but is it worth the 0.8 seconds that you hardly notice? That does depend on your PC speed, memory and stuff. The less, the better, and people like me will stop complaining

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Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by Kanezor on Sat, 05 Nov 2005 20:35:04 GMT
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light wrote on Sat, 05 November 2005 04:45If it loads in the background whilst Renegade is launching, it amounts to basically 0.5 seconds.
The fact of the matter is, we can't allow the Renegade client to connect to any RenGuard-protected server before the RenGuard client has finished scanning for cheats. Thus, if RenGuard launches Renegade before or while scanning for cheats, it's entirely possible that Renegade will be able to connect to a game server before RenGuard has finished.

Subject: Re: RenGuard Lite - Any chance of seeing something like this?
Posted by light on Sat, 05 Nov 2005 21:01:10 GMT
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Kanezor wrote on Sun, 06 November 2005 09:35light wrote on Sat, 05 November 2005 04:45If it loads in the background whilst Renegade is launching, it amounts to basically 0.5 seconds.
The fact of the matter is, we can't allow the Renegade client to connect to any

RenGuard-protected server before the RenGuard client has finished scanning for cheats. Thus, if RenGuard launches Renegade before or while scanning for cheats, it's entirely possible that Renegade will be able to connect to a game server before RenGuard has finished.

Ah, I hadn't considered that