Subject: Renegade freezes with new video card
Posted by NeoSaber on Mon, 14 Apr 2003 16:58:48 GMT
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I got a new video card last week, a GeForce 4 MX 440. Everything is going well with it except one thing, Renegade freezes everytime I turn it on. All my other games work fine with the new card and after days of trying driver updates, reinstalling, etc. I'm at a loss to figure out what's wrong.

The problem has actually evolved a little, originally Renegade would freeze if I used anything above minimal settings. Now that won't even work.

Here's my system info:
Windows 98
Duron 850MHz
128MB SDRAM
GeForce 4 MX 440 w/128 SDRAM
Direct X9

Anyone know what the problem might be, or am I condemned never to play Renegade again.

Subject: Renegade freezes with new video card
Posted by General Havoc on Mon, 14 Apr 2003 17:23:55 GMT
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I take it your using the nVidia release drivers 43.45 dated the 27th march 2003? If not you should be using these and not the ones from your manufacturer as they may not support DirectX9. I know it may seem strange that all other games work but it is possible to be the driver. I have a GeForce 4 Ti 4200 and it works fine even though the card is newer than the game so i wouldn't have though it would be that. Try running DxDiag from your run menu and then testing Direct3D just to make certain that it is working as some games use OpenGL.

Check that your hardware acceleration is set to full by right clicking "My Computer" then click properties then performance tab.

Also make sure your monitor will run at the same resolution as your trying to run the game in otherwise your monitor won't be able to display the game. Try 800x600.

_General Havoc

Subject: Renegade freezes with new video card
Posted by NeoSaber on Mon, 14 Apr 2003 17:51:05 GMT
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I am using the 43.45 drivers, I've reinstalled them twice just to be sure. I tested D3D through Dxdiag and it says it all works fine.

I always run my monitor and all games at 800x600, unless a game can't run in that resolution.

Here's a list of games that work, in case it helps.

C&C: Generals
Soul Reaver 2
Warcraft 3
Mechwarrior 3
Homeworld: Cataclysm

A couple Renegade related programs also are having problems. Gmax wouldn't work with D3D so I switched it to OpenGL and it works now. Level Edit worked fine until Renegade's problem evolved into a total freeze, now it freezes as well.

Subject: Renegade freezes with new video card
Posted by Majiin Vegeta on Mon, 14 Apr 2003 23:22:39 GMT
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i know a mate who got the GF4 and its works great on low end machine like 800MHz
and another mate with same card 2GHz all better and its shit!

the card it just random lol

Subject: Renegade freezes with new video card
Posted by Ren Sizzlefab on Tue, 15 Apr 2003 00:17:15 GMT
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I am loathe to suggest it, but have you tried reinstalling Renegade? It's grasping at straws, but maybe there's a setting somewhere that still relates to your old card.

Subject: Renegade freezes with new video card
Posted by Bassoonboy on Tue, 15 Apr 2003 01:54:43 GMT
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I got an Geforce4MX440-SE and 1.8 ghz processer on XP and it runs great. I recently upgraded and didnt have to renistall anything, so it must be something with ur computer. What OS are you using?

Subject: Re: Renegade freezes with new video card
Posted by NeoSaber on Tue, 15 Apr 2003 05:10:26 GMT
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Ren SizzlefabI am loathe to suggest it, but have you tried reinstalling Renegade? It's grasping at straws, but maybe there's a setting somewhere that still relates to your old card.

Renegade's installer freezes too.

BassoonboyI got an Geforce4MX440-SE and 1.8 ghz processer on XP and it runs great. I recently upgraded and didnt have to renistall anything, so it must be something with ur computer. What OS are you using?

NeoSaberHere's my system info:
Windows 98
Duron 850MHz
128MB SDRAM
GeForce 4 MX 440 w/128 SDRAM
Direct X9

I'm beginning to think it may be a bug in the motherboard that the new card is just making more apparent. I've had some problems with this computer before but never this bad.

Subject: Renegade freezes with new video card
Posted by Walrus on Fri, 18 Apr 2003 09:41:39 GMT
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   There is a problem that I know about with the GF cards that you might want to know about.
 I have the same card as you and I had the same problem. This error occurs in soldier of fortune 2, mechwarrior3 and all its expansions and mech commander 1/2. and of course renegade.

Let me guess, you try start the installer and all goes fine, you get the guy looking up at the hand and kneeling down, then you might see one or two seconds of the installer. You might get an error, or it might just freeze just after.
am I right?

Try returning your new card to its default settings. I find if I set my opengl and direct3d above 96 megs on the card setup tabs, then the above games will not start. Or install.

just try putting the PCI Texture Memory Size for both opengl and direct 3d back to its default. It works for me.

Yossarian Lives!

Subject: Renegade freezes with new video card
Posted by Bearxor on Fri, 18 Apr 2003 21:27:18 GMT
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Well... there are so many issues here that could be causing the problem, its difficult to know where to start.

Lets start at the hardware level. I'm assuming, since you have an older Duron 800, that your chipset is either a KT133 or KT133A. These were probably the most common chipsets out around the release of the Duron 800. What other expansion cards do you have in your computer?

If you have the PCI slot directly underneath your AGP slot full, pull it out. You should never have a PCI card installed in the slot below your AGP slot. Not only have there been conflicts with IRQ sharing (which have been resolved for a while now, but on older boards like the 133A, may still be present), but it just doesnt make sence for cooling reasons. How is the fan supposed to circulate air with a sound or network card blocking the intake? And where is the air supposed to go after its been blown onto the heatsink?

Do you have a Sound Blaster Live? There are documented problems with SBLive cards and VIA's southbridge chipset that was used on the KT133 boards. Please flash your BIOS to TRY and fix that problem if this is your situation.

Check your ram timings. If it is set at CAS2, try bumping it up to CAS3. It may be cheaper generic RAM that can't handle fast timings. Make sure things like 4-Way interweave are disbaled.

Disable AGP 4X and/or fastwrites. I would try diabling fastwrites first. If that doesn't work, turn off AGP 4X in BIOS. The card should default to AGP 2X. The performance difference with a 128MB card will be negligble.

Try these few simple things first, and if none of them work, come back and give more info on your system config, like your motherboard, what cards you have installed in which slots, what kind of hard drives your using, wethere you have the hard drive and the CD-ROM on the same IDE channel or different ones, etc, etc.

Subject: Renegade freezes with new video card
Posted by NeoSaber on Fri, 18 Apr 2003 21:54:23 GMT
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WalrusLet me guess, you try start the installer and all goes fine, you get the guy looking up at the hand and kneeling down, then you might see one or two seconds of the installer. You might get an error, or it might just freeze just after.
am I right?

Yes, that's exactly what happens.

WalrusTry returning your new card to its default settings. I find if I set my opengl and direct3d above 96 megs on the card setup tabs, then the above games will not start. Or install.

just try putting the PCI Texture Memory Size for both opengl and direct 3d back to its default. It works for me.

I already had it set to default settings. At default, PCI Texture Memory Size is 15MB, is that good or should it be higher?

BearxorWhat other expansion cards do you have in your computer?

I don't have any other cards, unless that stupid little 56k modem that came with the computer counts.

Subject: Renegade freezes with new video card
Posted by Bearxor on Sun, 20 Apr 2003 03:41:37 GMT
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Did you try any of those suggestions yet?

Subject: Renegade freezes with new video card
Posted by NeoSaber on Sun, 20 Apr 2003 05:54:28 GMT
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Well, my BIOS is probably outdated and doesn't contain alot of what you suggested. I'm reluctant to flash it because I've never done anything like that before and everything I do only seems to make my computer worse. If I screw up a BIOS flash, then the computer is gone for good.

Every solution I've found so far starts with 'update to your latest BIOS', but nothing has pointed out to me how to do it. I don't want to just fumble around and hope I get it right.

Subject: Renegade freezes with new video card
Posted by Walrus on Sun, 20 Apr 2003 10:28:19 GMT
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even work. You would no that there was some thing wrong right away.

ok I tried to recreate the problem on my own pc.
 1800XP
 512ddr
 20gb 7200 hd
 win98 se
 dx 8.something (so sue me I cant be buggered to upgrade it)
 creative gf4 420 64mb
I cant get it to crash any more with any of the games. Two other people had the same problem you do on the old forums (I think one was called clockstopper or something), just by defaulting the card the problem was fixed. Heres a few things you can try.

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have you tried playing with the settings on the cards for the direct3d and the open gl, just try them at four megs each and go up from there.

uninstall all your games, there might be a conflict, then try ren on its own.

reformat. Just backup all your files. I hate having to do this. But win98 and se have a known problem with its registry, usually when adding a vid card the hard drive has to be reformatted, I had to do this with my creative gf4 420. WIN98 screws up if the drivers are installed too many times. This happened with a gf2pci that I had on another PC as well.
 When was the last time you formatted? the problem seems to have vanished on my pc since I have reformatted. That could be your problem.

Bios.... If it works ok, then leave well alone unless you know what you are doing.

start
settings
control panel
system
and check all the tabs here, they might be set up wrong.

Yossarian Lives!

Subject: Renegade freezes with new video card
Posted by Bearxor on Mon, 21 Apr 2003 02:29:20 GMT
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NeoSaberWell, my BIOS is probably outdated and doesn't contain alot of what you suggested. I'm reluctant to flash it because I've never done anything like that before and everything I do only seems to make my computer worse. If I screw up a BIOS flash, then the computer is gone for good.

Every solution I've found so far starts with 'update to your latest BIOS', but nothing has pointed out to me how to do it. I don't want to just fumble around and hope I get it right.

If you can give me your motherboards brand and model number, I can walk you through several of the steps.

Subject: Renegade freezes with new video card
Posted by NeoSaber on Mon, 21 Apr 2003 15:39:36 GMT
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My motherboard is a pcchips 810L.