

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Virgin links up with UK National LAN Tour to promote Codename: Outbreak

Virgin Interactive have armed themselves and joined forces with the first UK National LAN Tour to promote their hotly tipped and eagerly awaited Strategic First Person Shooter – **Codename: Outbreak**.

That's right, pack your sniper rifle as of July 27 the UK **National LAN Tour** goes on a whistle stop tour of the UK - hitting Cardiff, Dublin, Glasgow, Manchester and London. The competition is likely to be cut-throat as FPS gamers compete head to head for prize money and the titles of Welsh, Irish, Scottish, North of England, South of England and UK National Champion. The Tournaments are open to anyone with an interest in *Codename: Outbreak*, Quake III Arena, Unreal Tournament or Counter Strike. All you have to do is visit the official web site WWW.UK-LAN-TOUR.CO.UK, register, pay a small entry fee, turn up and play.

In single-player mode, *Codename: Outbreak* is a heart-in-mouth strategic-action fest, combining moments of all-out-action with tactical planning as players command a two-man strike force. The game utilises sophisticated enemy routines, with complex sight and hearing algorithms combining to create highly intelligent adversaries. Missions need to be tackled in number of ways – guard routines need to be studied and surveillance disabled before a successful strike is launched. The buddy system allows players to specify timed attacks so sentries can be taken out simultaneously. Co-ordination between the two team-mates is vital, and players can directly switch between soldiers as they wish. Alternatively, commands can be issued to fellow soldiers with key strokes, leaving players able to concentrate on their own actions.

Multi-player modes will introduce advanced objectives, as players compete co-operatively or against one another.

A jaw-dropping display engine will boast resolutions of up to 1280 x 1024 as players are treated to a game world boasting directional lighting, dynamic colour illumination, volumetric fog, realistic water surfaces, and figures comprising up to 1000 polygons – all wrapped in a stunning particle system explosion system.

The Virgin Interactive Codename: Outbreak National LAN Tournament is open to anyone who registers their name on the UK National LAN Web site. Registration for this tournament is subsidised by Virgin Interactive and as such is absolutely FREE. So hurry because places to compete in and experience the next big First Person Shooter, are limited and subject to a first come first served basis.

In addition to the UK Regional and National Championships, the tour will also host the first National LAN Party. The LAN Party will run over three days (four in London) at each of the five venues. LAN parties provide an electrifying environment for the FPS fan frustrated with the high ping rates and lag of on-line gaming. The entire event is open to 'newbie', professional and family alike and they promise hours of electrifying fragging.

Further details on the UK National LAN Tour can be found on the official web site at WWW.UK-LAN-TOUR.CO.UK.

Codename: Outbreak is published by Virgin Interactive and will be released September 2001 priced £29.99

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About Virgin Interactive –

Virgin Interactive is one of the interactive entertainment industry's most established players. Since its inception in 1983, Virgin Interactive has consistently pushed gaming boundaries with original content, innovative marketing and aggressive worldwide distribution. Publishing software across all major platforms, from the 8bit Game Boy unit through to the 128bit Dreamcast and PlayStation 2 systems, Virgin's successful corporate philosophy has been to establish new brands and franchises with ground-breaking and original titles whilst supporting their development with world-renowned, award-winning marketing campaigns. Virgin is headquartered in London, England and has publishing, marketing, sales and distribution offices in Germany, France and Spain and a licensing office in Japan.

Virgin Interactive has affiliation deals with US publishing giant Interplay.
In 2001 French publisher Titus games SA took a 100% controlling interest in the firm.

For further information on Virgin and their products go to www.vie.co.uk

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