

Lightwood Games brings iOS catalogue to Windows 8; three free games available at launch

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Lightwood Games is proud to reveal the first apps from its catalogue of puzzle games to be available on the new Windows Store. All the games are free downloads and will be immediately available when Windows 8 is released, this Friday 26th October.

Word Search Party is Lightwood's flagship title. It has already passed the one million download mark on iOS and has now been played more than 20 million times. The game contains a massive library of word puzzles - more than 8,000 at present - as well as the ability to create your own.

Refreshed to use the new Windows style, Word Search Party looks like a game that belongs on Windows 8.

"We were keen to make apps that looked the part, not just do a straight port", said Lightwood's Chris Newman. "Everything has been redesigned to embrace the new visual style and content-oriented features."

Word Search Party supports the integrated searching and sharing features of Windows, and the semantic zoom feature for easy navigation. It works in any orientation and remains fully playable when snapped to the side of another application.

Head Hunter Challenge is a turn-based social game that asks players to find the correct faces in a crowd, against the clock and against their friends. Now Windows has been added to the list of supported platforms, which already includes iOS, Android and Facebook.

The third launch title is Daily Word Bingo, a simple word game that provides a daily mental workout. It challenges players to think of 25 answers for the same subject, each beginning with a different letter. Lightwood's moderators check all the answers to weed out cheats and publish new leaderboards every day.

Lightwood Games expects to bring more titles from its catalogue to the Windows Store in the coming months.

On why Windows 8 is such an exciting prospect, Newman said, "We're always thrilled to see people playing our games and the reach of Windows is second to none. This is a tremendous opportunity to put our apps in front of millions of PC users, as well as the next generation of tablets!"

About the Company:

Lightwood Games is a trading name of Lightwood Consultancy Ltd, a small company based on Stoke-on-Trent, UK. Established in 1999, Lightwood gained a reputation for producing high quality software for clients around the world.

After a decade of delivering web-based projects for clients as diverse as motor traders, stock photography sites, roleplaying games and licensed real money poker operators, the developers found the lure of the new generation of mobile phones too strong to resist and extended their skills to provide consulting services in this sector.

The company began developing games for iOS in 2010 and the first app released by Lightwood Games - Word Search Party - was launched later that year. It has now been downloaded more than one million times.

Since then, the company has continued to focus on producing high quality applications in the puzzle game genre, and now concentrates exclusively on its game output, most recently by porting a number of titles to Windows 8.

In April 2012, Lightwood's developers won two awards at the UK's first GameHack event for their game Plasma Party. They won "Best Use of Mobile" and "Most Innovative App" for developing a unique multiple screen gaming platform in just 24 hours. In September 2012, Lightwood Games was shortlisted for consideration in the category "App Developer 2012" at the Appsters Awards.

Resources:

Lightwood Games Press Kit: <http://www.lightwoodgames.com/presskit.php>

Word Search Party Store Page: <http://www.lightwoodgames.com/win/wordsearch>

Word Search Party Demo Video: <http://youtu.be/31gUkKdPu8M>

Word Search Party Screenshots:

<http://www.lightwoodgames.com/games/wordsearch/wordsearch-screenshots-win8.zip>

Head Hunter Challenge Store Page: <http://www.lightwoodgames.com/win/headhunter>

Head Hunter Challenge Demo Video: <http://youtu.be/E2BAbv9j6B4>

Head Hunter Challenge Screenshots:

<http://www.lightwoodgames.com/games/headhunter/headhunter-screenshots-win8.zip>

Daily Word Bingo Store Page: <http://www.lightwoodgames.com/win/dailywordbingo>

Daily Word Bingo Screenshots:

<http://www.lightwoodgames.com/games/daily-word-bingo/dailywordbingo-screenshots-win8.zip>

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