

Computer Games 2014 Introduction

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Agenda



- Business of Games
- Age ratings



Gaming Business



AAA Games

- Considered as premium game projects
- Big budget, broad market, high quality
- Large teams, exhaustively tested, etc.



AAA Games - Examples



- Assassins Creed III
 - Ubisoft, Action adventure
 - − 2 ½ years development
 - Big development team
- NFS: Most Wanted
 - EA, Criterion
 - Racing







AAA Games - Examples



- Assassins Creed III
 - AAA -> a lot of work!
 - [Video on historical context and design pitch]



Gaming Business



Indie Games

- Independent video games
- Created without (big financial) support of publishers
- Typically relies on digital distribution



Indie Games - Examples



- World of Goo (2D Boy)
 - http://www.worldofgoo.com/
 - on site, Steam, Wii Ware, Mac Games Store, ...
- Braid (Number None)
 - http://www.braid-game.com/
 - Xbox, Steam, ...
- Journey(thatgamecompany)
 - http://thatgamecompany.com/games/flower/



Indie Games - Examples





- Jellyfisher Soccer Blitz
 - 50,000 downloads on Google Play in 8 months
 - 250\$ in game ads revenue + 30\$ & in-app purchases
- Supercell Hay Day and Clash of Clans
 - 29.4 million active users per day
 - \$ 5.15 million revenue per day





Games Ranking (Turnover)



Sony Ent. Network (ge		marine and a
The Order: 1886	SCE Europe	PS4
Battlefield 4: Premium Edition	Electronic Arts	PS4
Tomb Raider: Definitive Edition	Square Enix	PS4
Grand Theft Auto V	Rockstar Games	PS4
Mittelerde Mordors Schatten Leg. Ed.	Warner Bros. Int.	PS4
Madden NFL 15	Electronic Arts	PS4
Destiny	Activision	PS4
Evolve	Take-Two	PS4
FIFA 15 Deluxe Edition	Electronic Arts	PS4
NHL 15	Electronic Arts	PS4

Grand Theft Auto V	Rockstar Games
Sniper Elite V2	Rebellion
Resident Evil Revelations 2	Capcom
Minecraft: XBox 360 Edition	Majong
ScreamRide	Frontier Developments
Call of Duty: Black Ops 2	Activision
CoD: Advanced Warfare	Activision
World of Tanks: XBox 360 Edition	Wargaming.net
FIFA 15	Electronic Arts
Assassin's Creed IV	Ubisoft

Clash of Clans	Supercell	Freemium
Candy Crush Soda Saga	King	Freemium
Hay Day	Supercell	Freemium
Candy Crush Saga	King	Freemium
Empire: Four Kingdoms	Goodgame	Freemium
Die Simpsons	Electronic Arts	Freemium
Farm Heroes Saga	King	Freemium
Schloss Konflikt: Castle Clash	IGG.com	Freemium
Summoners Wars: Sky Arena	Com2uS	Freemium
Dorfleben Küste	FunPlus	Freemium

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Quizduell Premium	FEO Media	Premium
Minecraft Pocket Edition	Mojang	Premium
Worms 3	Team 17	Premium
Geometry Dash	RobTop Games	Premium
Motorsport Manager	Christian West	Premium
Bau-Simulator 2014	astragon	Premium
Bloons TD 5	ninja kiwi	Premium
Modern Combat 5: Blackout	Gameloft	Premium
Monopoly	Electronic Arts	Premium
Landwirtschaftssimulator 14	Giants Software	Premium



Games Ranking (Turnover)



Clash of Clans	Supercell	Freemiun
Candy Crush Saga	King	Freemlun
Die Simpsons: Springfield	Electronic Arts	Freemiun
Candy Crush Soda Saga	King	Freemiun
Hay Day	Supercell	Freemiun
Game of War – Fire Age	Machine Zone	Freemiun
Empire: Four Kingdoms	Goodgame	Freemiur
Imperia Online: Die größten Leute	Imperia Online	Freemiun
Boom Beach	Supercell	Freemiur
Summoners War: Sky Arena	Com2uS	Freemiur

Clash of Clans	Supercell	Freemium
Hay Day	Supercell	Freemium
Die Simpsons: Springfield	Electronic Arts	Freemium
Candy Crush Soda Saga	King	Freemium
Candy Crush Saga	King	Freemium
Game of War – Fire Age	Machine Zone	Freemium
Boom Beach	Supercell	Freemium
Empire: Four Kingdoms	Goodgame	Freemium
Game Twist Slots	Funstage	Freemium
Marvel Sturm der Superhelden	Kabam Inc.	Freemlum

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Dragonball Xenoverse	DIMPS
Homeworld Remastered Collection	Gearbox Software
Europa Universalis IV: El Dorado	Paradox Developmen
Grand Theft Auto V	Rockstar Game
H1Z1	Sony Online Entertainm
Counter Strike: Global Offensive Total War	Valv
Calactic Civilizations	Stardock Entertainmen
Dynasty Warriors 8: Empires	Koei Tecmo Game
Hotline Miami 2: Wrong Number	Dennaton Game
Total War: Attila	Creative Assembl

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Dragonball Xenoverse	PS4	Bandai N
Bloodborne Limited Steelbook Ed.	PS4	SCEC
Mario Party 10	WiiU	Nintendo
Final Fantasy Type-0 HD	PS4	Koch Media
Grand Theft Auto V	PC	Take-Two
Xenoblade Chronicles 3D	3DS	Nintendo
Project Cars	PS4	Bandai N
Project Cars — Limited Edition	PS4	Bandai N
Battlefield Hardline – Deluxe Edition	PS4	E.A
Batman: Arkham Knight - Limitd. Ed.	PS4	Warne



Gaming Business Models



Gar	Gaming-Businessmodelle gestern, heute, morgen						
		Kunden	Entwicklungskosten	Kosten Kundenerwerb	Umsatz	Trend	
	Konsole	200 Mio.	10+ Mio \$	Werbung	100 Mio. \$	→	
f	Facebook	600 Mio.	100.000+\$	1,20 \$	100+ Mio. \$	Ŋ	
	Internet	1,6 Mrd.	100.000+\$	1,40\$	100+ Mio. \$	7	
	Mobile	4,5 Mrd.	10.000+\$	< 0,1 \$ Ouelle: eigen	10 Mio.+ \$	J oint Zahlen	



Gaming Business



Roles in the Games Development Process

- Game Studio
 - creates the game
- Publisher
 - production & QA
- Distributor
 - digital, on media



Game Studio - Examples



- Harmonix
- Naughty Dog
- Bungie
- EA Sports
- Quantic Dream



Publisher - Examples



- Electronic Arts
- Capcom
- Konami
- MTV Games



Distributor - Example



- EA Distribution
- Valve
- Sony
- Microsoft
- GOG



Distribution Media



Digital distribution

- Typically means "online" distribution
 Digital media based distribution
- Blue-Ray, DVD, UMD, cartridge, etc.
 Hybrid methods
- DVD with online registration
- Codes, cards, etc.



Distribution - Steam



Created & maintained by Valve



- Supports indie games to AAA
- Includes community features
- Manages DRM



Distribution - Xbox Live



 Focus on indie, arcade and classic games



- Supports on demand downloads
- Moved from points to money
- Includes few community features
- Manages DRM



Distribution - PSN



- Focus on "smaller" games
 - indie, arcade, minis, PSP, etc.



- Supports on demand downloads
- Includes community features
- Manages DRM
 - one online, 2 installations for PS3
 - Logged in for PS4



Distribution - GOG



- Provides "old" games & movies
- Working digital copies
- DRM free
- Community features
 - rating, collaborative filtering & comments





Game Business: Numbers 2014 (DE)

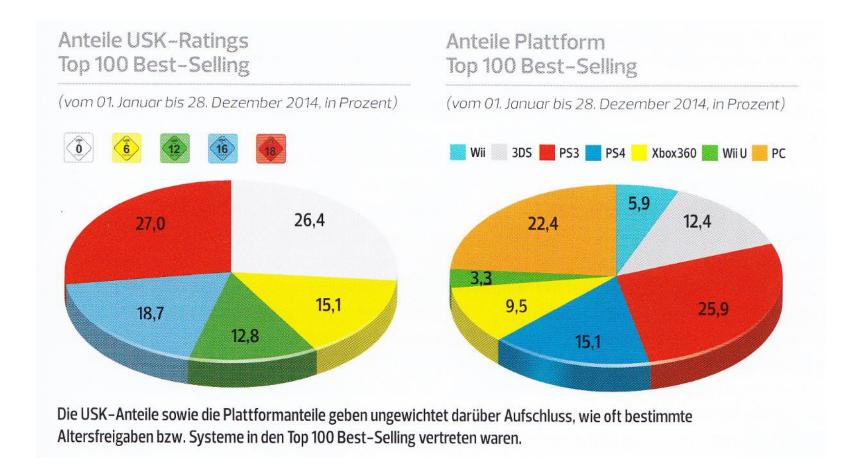






Game Business: Numbers 2014 (DE)

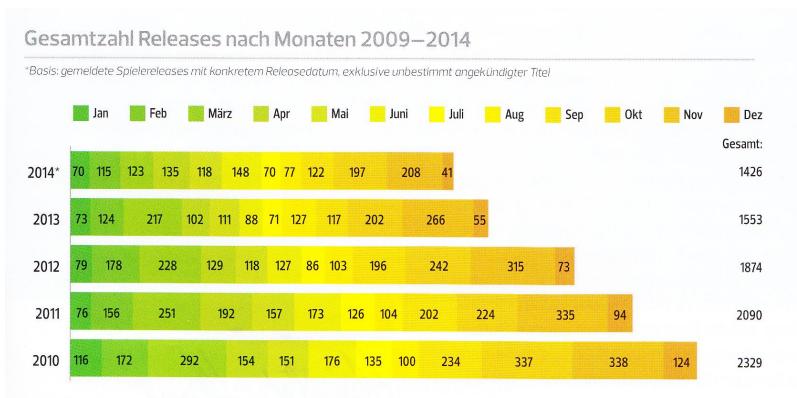






Game Business: Numbers 2014 (DE)



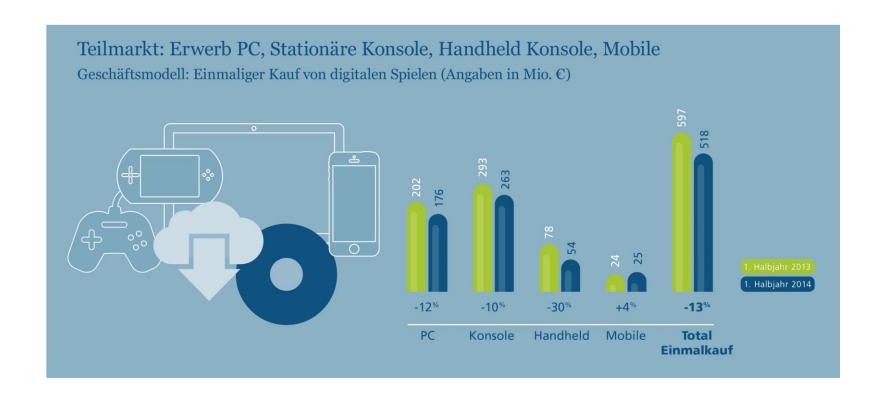


Das Balkendiagramm zeigt, wie viele SKUs jeden Monat von den Publishern auf den Markt gebracht wurden. Basis hierfür ist die Meldung der Titel an die GamesMarkt-Titeldatenbank.



Game Business







Teilmarkt: Abonnements für digitale Spiele

"Der Markt für digitale Spiele wird derzeit von Trends wie den neuen **Spielkonsolen**, dem Boom bei Spielen für **Mobilgeräte** und dem **Free-to-Play-Geschäftsmodell** angetrieben, die die Marktentwicklung auch in den kommenden Jahren maßgeblich beeinflussen werden."

Teilmarkt: Virtuelle Güter und Zusatzinhalte für digitale Spiele



Geschäftsmodell: Abo-Gebühren für Spielesoftware (Angaben in Mio. €)



Total Abo -18%



Apps

+256%

MikroT.

+148%

Browserspiele:

+109%









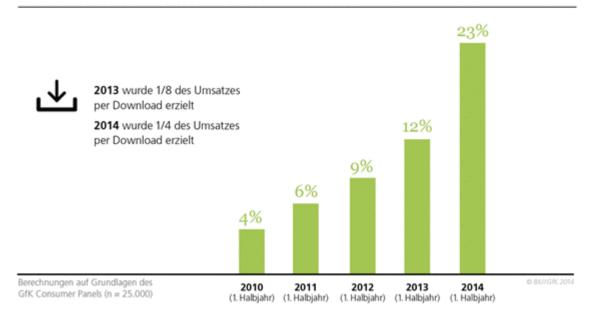


Game Business



Ein Viertel des Umsatzes 2014 per Download

Anteil der Downloads am Gesamtumsatz (Kauf von Software für PC, Konsole und Handheld)







- Online Browser Games
 - Bigpoint.com biggest German gaming portal
 - In the top 3 gaming portals world wide
- Publisher
 - Development (bigpoint.com & selbst), licensing
- Content Provider
 - e.g. Sevengames
- Developer
 - own game studio





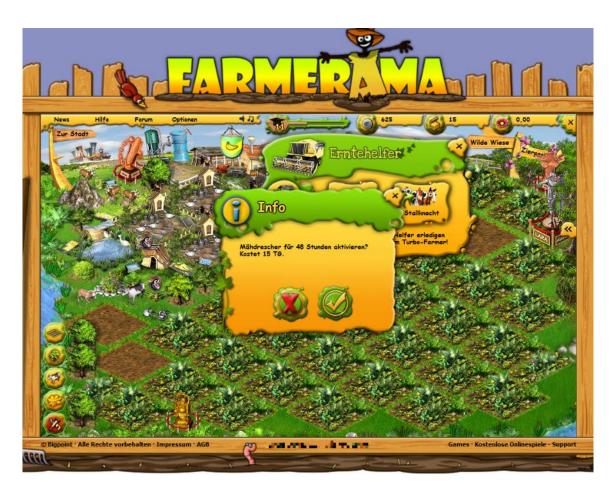


- 54 browser games
 - with 2013-03-11
- More than 300 million registered users
 - with 2012-12-04, http://bigpoint.net/press/
- Selling virtual goods
 - Micropayment

















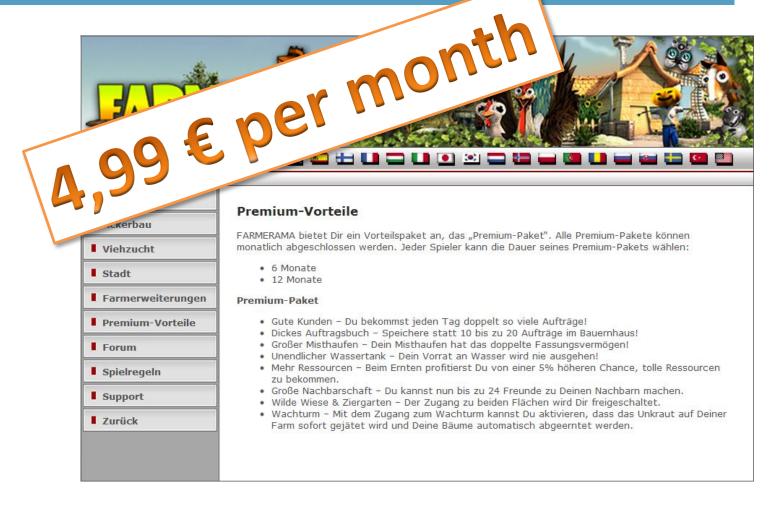




(c) 2011 Bigpoint GmbH | Impressum | AGB | Status & Vorteilspakete | Support | Promocode aktivieren | Tulpgulden tauschen









Business Model: Gameloft



- Publisher and developer
 - mobile games
 - console games



- Develops for
 - Java, Brew, Symbian
 - WiiWare and DS, HTML5, Smart TVs
 - Microsoft's Xbox LIVE Arcade, PC, Mac
 - Apple's iPod, iTouch and iPhones



Business Model: Gameloft



- 28 studios
- 5,000 developers
- 1,000 cell phones models supported
- 208.3 million € sales in 2012



Business Model: CryTek



- "From AAA Retail to AAA Online"
- Product: Box vs. Service
- Gamers: Who will pay?
- Process: Gold Master vs. Open Beta+





AAA Online: Product Characteristics



- Communication is key issue
 - The community is always right
 - responsiveness
- Iterate forever (almost)
- Path to fun is critical
 - Instant fun vs. learning curve
- Virtual goods vs. boxed game





AAA Online: Gamers



Reflects

thoughts of Cevat Yerli!

- SHEEP (90-95 of 100)
 - Love shiny content, enjoy game horizontally
 - Do not dig deep into levels, features or difficulty
 - Make up the community both in demographic and size
- WOLVES (4-9 of 100)
 - Fans, dig vertically into game & appreciate depth
 - Enjoy online games in the same way as box buyers
 - Spend money to save time, not to dress up



- WHALE (0-1 of 100)
 - Wealthy, spends \$\$\$ per month to show off
 - Wants to get everything quick, spends also to speed up
 - Buys everything contributes most to avg. revenue / user (ARPU)



Where to go?



- Almost every AAA retail game can be transformed into a F2P game, in-game economics
- If not from scratch F2P, establish hybrid solutions now
- The minimum: Prepare retail release for follow up F2P





Agenda



- Business of Games
- Age ratings



Entertainment Software Rating Board (ESRB)



- For interactive entertainment industry
 - North America
 - Non-profit, self-regulatory
- Goals
 - Assignment of ratings
 - Enforcement of adverting guidelines
 - Help in ensuring online privacy practices





ESRB Ratings Process (1)



Ratings Process

- in final stages of development
- prior to a game being released

Publishers submit

- responses to ESRB questionnaire
- supplementing with lyric sheets, scripts, etc.





Pan European Game Information (PEGI)



- European "ESRB"
- Fully supported by the European Union
- Focus on protection of minors
 - Does not rate challenge or educational value





PEGI Ratings

















Unterhaltungssoftware Selbstkontrolle (USK)



- German institution
 - based on the law on protection of minors
 - very strict in Germany (e.g. mail order)
- Games w. USK rating are sold in AT & CH
 - Although PEGI is used there
 - Just one version with German translation





USK & BPjM



Games considered "jugendgefährdend"

- Are not rated by the USK but by the "Bundesprüfstelle für jugendgefährdende Medien"
- Get on a list of media harmful for minors
- Cannot be advertised in stores and media or sold to minors

Criteria

"... vor allem unsittliche, verrohend wirkende, zu Gewalttätigkeit, Verbrechen oder Rassenhass anreizende Medien sowie Medien, in denen (1) Gewalthandlungen, insbesondere Mord- und Metzelszenen selbstzweckhaft und detailliert dargestellt werden oder (2) Selbstjustiz als einzig bewährtes Mittel zur Durchsetzung der vermeintlichen Gerechtigkeit nahe gelegt wird."



Assignment



- Readings
 - The Ups And Downs Of The Casual Gaming Market (tsa)
- Watch
 - How Hard could it be The Story of a cinematic by Brian Kindregan (Blizzard Entertainment)
- Downloads on the web page

