

**PC**   
WINDOWS CD-ROM

 **astragon**

**MANUAL**

# Ski Region Simulator



 **GIANTS**  
SOFTWARE

Officially licenced by:

*PistenBully*



**EXCALIBUR**  
PUBLISHING

## Important Health Warning About Playing Video Games

### Photosensitive Seizures

A very small percentage of people may experience a seizure when exposed to certain visual images, including flashing lights or patterns that may appear in video games. Even people who have no history of seizures or epilepsy may have an undiagnosed condition that can cause these “photosensitive epileptic seizures” while watching video games.

These seizures may have a variety of symptoms, including lightheadedness, altered vision, eye or face twitching, jerking or shaking of arms or legs, disorientation, confusion, or momentary loss of awareness. Seizures may also cause loss of consciousness or convulsions that can lead to injury from falling down or striking nearby objects.

Immediately stop playing and consult a doctor if you experience any of these symptoms. Parents should watch for or ask their children about the above symptoms—children and teenagers are more likely than adults to experience these seizures. The risk of photosensitive epileptic seizures may be reduced by taking the following precautions: Sit farther from the screen; use a smaller screen; play in a well-lit room; and do not play when you are drowsy or fatigued.

If you or any of your relatives have a history of seizures or epilepsy, consult a doctor before playing.

PEGI ratings and guidance applicable within PEGI markets only.

### What is the PEGI System?

The PEGI age-rating system protects minors from games unsuitable for their particular age group. PLEASE NOTE it is not a guide to gaming difficulty. Comprising two parts, PEGI allows parents and those purchasing games for children to make an informed choice appropriate to the age of the intended player. The first part is an age rating:



The second is icons indicating the type of content in the game. Depending on the game, there may be a number of such icons. The age-rating of the game reflects the intensity of this content. The icons are:



For further information visit <http://www.pegi.info> and [pegionline.eu](http://pegionline.eu)

## Before starting

Make sure that your computer is able to meet the following recommended specifications:

- Microsoft Windows XP (SP3), Windows Vista or Windows 7
- CD-ROM Drive
- 2 GHz CPU
- NVIDIA GeForce 6800 series, ATI Radeon X850 or S3 Chrome 430 GT graphic card (at least 256 MB VRAM) Note: Onboard graphics cards are not officially supported.
- 1 GB main memory
- 1 GB free hard disk space
- Sound card
- INTERNET CONNECTION REQUIRED FOR MULTI-PLAYER MODE

## Installation

The CD menu will start automatically after inserting the CD. Should this not be the case, please proceed as follows:

**Windows XP:** click **Start, Run** and enter “D:\cdstart.exe” Then click **OK**.

**Windows Vista and Windows 7:** click on the windows symbol on the bottom left of the task bar and enter “D:\cdstart.exe” into the dialogue box. Then press the Enter key.

“D” stands for the drive letter of the CD-ROM drive. If your CD-ROM device has another drive letter, you must substitute “D” with the appropriate letter. Then click **OK**. A menu will then be displayed.

Click **Install game** to begin installing the programme. Please follow the instructions from the setup programme.

Under Windows Vista and Windows 7, you will find the game in the game explorer that can be run via the start menu. Under Windows XP, the game can be found in the start menu under **Start/All Programs/Ski Region Simulator 2012/Ski Region Simulator 2012**.

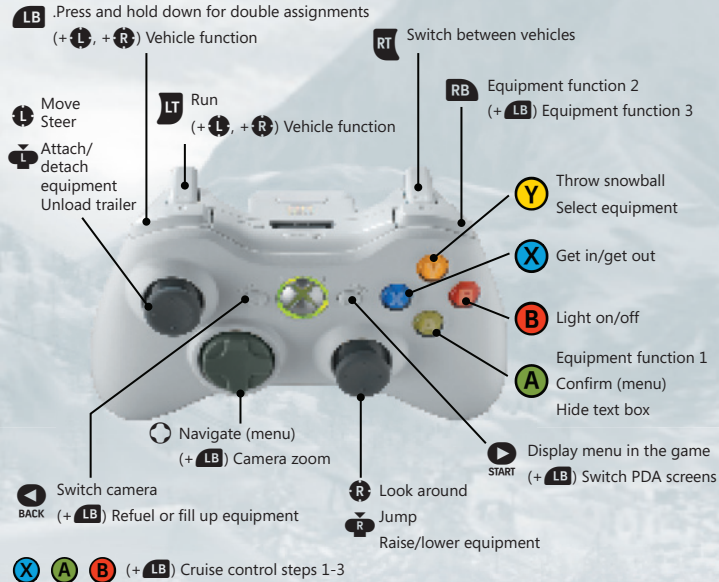
When running for the first time, you will be asked to enter a product key. Your product key is printed in the Quick Start instructions on the reverse of the inlay.

If security messages are displayed under Windows Vista or Windows 7 during execution of the Autostart menu folder or the installation routine itself, you may confirm execution of the “Setup.exe” or “cdstart.exe” without hesitation.

## Game control

Ski Region Simulator supports the mouse, keyboard or a gamepad such as the Microsoft Xbox 360 controller for Windows. You can adapt the control to your own taste in the options menu or use the standard assignments shown here:

### Xbox 360® Controller for Windows



The vehicle functions are used with the snow plough for example, so that you can raise, lower and rotate the snowblade.

Some buttons have two functions (e.g., **RB** with equipment function 2 and 3). To activate the second assignment, you must keep **LB** pressed down.

The vehicle function can be controlled with the mouse by pressing and holding down the left, right or both mouse buttons and moving the mouse.

## Keyboard & Mouse Assignment

Action	Key	Mouse
<b>GENERAL CONTROLS</b>		
Move	W A S D	
Look around	Arrow keys	Mouse movement
Run	Shift left	
Jump	Spacebar	
Throw snowball/skip message box		Left mouse button
Open shop screen directly	P	
View finances & take out a loan	O	
Light on/off	F	
Activate PDA/Switch through screens	I	
Activate rotating symbols in the game	R	
Call menu	ESC	
Chat (multiplayer)	T	
Transfer money (multiplayer)	L	
Accelerate Time	+ - (NumPad)	
<b>VEHICLE CONTROLS</b>		
Steer	W A S D	
Move camera	Arrow keys	Mouse movement
Enter/exit vehicle	E	
Switch camera/snow cannon	C	
Zoom camera		Mouse wheel
Operate equipment and snow cannon	J K N M	Mouse buttons & movement
Attach/detach tipper/equipment Unload tipper	Q	
Switch between vehicles	Tab key	
Raise/lower equipment	V	
Equipment function 1	B	
Equipment function 2	X	
Equipment function 3	H	
Switch between attached equipment	G	
Refuel or fill up equipment	R	
Cruise control steps	1 2 3	

## Welcome to Stutzmatt!

In Ski Region Simulator, you take on the role of a businessman who has dedicated himself to changing an aspiring Swiss ski region to an international paradise for skiers. Have you got what it takes to take on the different tasks that arise every day in a ski region? Play the game and find out!

### You career begins

The game starts at 6:40. At this time, there are no skiers on the slopes or at the lifts because the ski region is first opened to the public at 7:00. At the beginning of the game, you own a small slope and can use the time to prepare it with your PistenBully. The ski stations are open to the public daily from 7:00 to 22:00.

### Stations

At the beginning of the game, you own two small stations that are connected to each other with a chair lift. If you wish to buy new stations, you must first earn enough money to be able to afford them.

The day tickets that are purchased by the guests for use at all stations in your ski region are an important source of income. Go to the rotating building block symbol in front of your station in the valley and activate it by pressing the R key. You can set the day price for the day tickets in the menu that then appears. A price is recommended

so that you have some idea what you can charge without annoying your guests.

The more stations and facilities you own, the more you can charge for the day ticket. Take a look regularly to see if the price recommendation has increased.

### Slopes

Each ski slope connects two stations with each other. You cannot buy ski slopes directly. Instead, you own all slopes automatically that are connected by the start and end stations that you own. In order to obtain more slopes, you must purchase the corresponding stations.

When you begin a new game, you own slope no. 8 ("Frischling"), which connects your two small stations.



### Facilities

Each station is equipped with a series of facilities that you can purchase and extend. The number of these facilities varies according to the size of the station. For example you can only build a helicopter landing pad at larger stations.



Build facilities such as snack bars, kiosks or souvenir shops to meet the needs of your guests. For example, families look for ski schools that are suitable for children. On the other hand, young people would prefer a disco or a cinema. Most of the facilities offer services that the guests must pay for. In addition to the day tickets, the facilities are also an important source of income.

### Guests

In order to make sure that you have sufficient cash flow, you must satisfy the needs of your guests. Each guest will rate your ski region based on the facilities and slopes that they use. The more the guest is satisfied with your range, the more they are willing to spend money. Consult the guide in the game to find out more on the behaviour of guests.



### Missions

From time to time, you will be offered tasks over the radio that you can deal with in the ski region. Depending on

the mission type, you will require different equipment in order to be able to carry out the task. Transporting missions require the corresponding sled so that you can move the goods. You must have a rescue sled to be able to carry our rescue missions.

The amount of money you receive as a reward will depend on how fast you deal with the task.

Missions are optional and can be switched off completely in the game menu (under settings). However, they are a valuable source of income, particularly at the beginning of your career.

# Stutzmatt



- Ski stations
- Salt depots
- Petrol stations
- Vehicle dealers
- Air rescue service

1-21 slope numbers

- Easy slope
- Moderately difficult slope
- Difficult slope

## Vehicles and equipment

Managing a ski region requires the performance of a variety of tasks. The following vehicles and equipment will support you in your daily work:

### Snow caterpillar

In order to be able to prepare your ski slopes, you need an all-terrain snow caterpillar.

At the beginning of the game, you own the PistenBully 100 which is available for use immediately. You will find other models at the vehicle dealer.



### Snow ploughs



The plough is attached to the front of the snow caterpillar. It pushes the snow in front of it and levels everything off. You will also find ploughs for other vehicles at the vehicle dealer which for example, you can use for clearing car parks..

### Grooming

A groomer is attached to the back of your snow caterpillar so that you can treat your slope with those typical grooves of a freshly treated skiing slope.



### Snowmobiles



As a businessman, you are often required to be in different parts of the resort. You therefore need a fast and manoeuvrable means of transport. Snowmobiles are ideal for this.

### Sleds



Unplanned incidents can occur in the ski region, which you should deal with at short notice.

Sleds are mostly used for this type of task and you can purchase these from the dealer.



You will require the transport sled (left image) when you need to transport goods of any kind. The rescue stretcher (right image) is used for recovering skiers who have had an accident.

### Snowblowers

In the valley, you can use the snow blower to clear roads and car parks. The snow is sucked in and blown out of a rotatable snow blaster.



### Salt spreader

You can also use a salt spreader to clear snow. Of course, you will need salt for this equipment which you can find at both salt depots in the village. The depots can be found on the map in the middle of this manual and on the PDA map in the game.

In order to fill the salt spreader tank, you also need a vehicle with a shovel such as the wheel loader.



### Wheel loader

You can move large quantities of snow from place to place with the help of the wheel loader. You also use this vehicle for loading salt onto the salt spreader.

### Tipper

If your slopes do not have enough snow, you can collect some snow from other locations and load it onto a tipper so that you can transport it to your slopes.



### Deutz Agrotron M 620

Tipplers filled with snow obviously cannot move on their own but need a powerful tractor. You can purchase the Deutz Agrotron M 620 from the dealer.

Thanks to the wide range of additional equipment, you can also use the tractor for clearing snow or spreading salt.

### Snow cannon

If it has not snowed for a long period of time, you can make use of artificial snow. The dealer offers several types of snow cannons, which are operated in various different ways. Two of them must be brought to the slopes with a vehicle. The more expensive models can be remote controlled.

If you consider using a snow cannon, you should be aware that they are expensive to operate.



### Compact loader

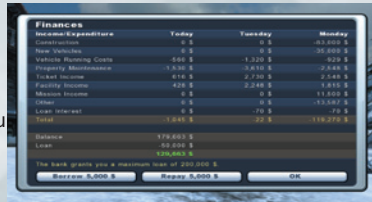
This manoeuvrable vehicle is a less expensive alternative to the wheel loader. The compact loader is available in two versions, with a shovel or a blade.

## Other game elements

### Finances

You can view your finances by pressing the O-key.

The finance view shows all income and expenditure for the current day as well as the two previous days. You can also see the amount you have loaned from the bank.



Finances	Today	Yesterday	Monday
Construction	0 \$	0 \$	-63,800 \$
Shop Expenses	0 \$	0 \$	39,000 \$
Vehicle Running Costs	500 \$	1,320 \$	920 \$
Property Maintenance	1,700 \$	2,410 \$	2,040 \$
Ticket Income	0 \$	2,700 \$	2,040 \$
Facility Income	420 \$	2,240 \$	1,850 \$
Money Income	0 \$	0 \$	11,800 \$
Loan	0 \$	0 \$	-15,500 \$
Loan Interest	0 \$	-70 \$	-70 \$
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,620 \$</b>	<b>22 \$</b>	<b>116,270 \$</b>
Balance	170,000 \$		
Loan	50,000 \$		
<b>Total</b>	<b>120,000 \$</b>		

The bank grants you a maximum loan of 50,000 \$

Revenue: 6,000 \$    Expense: 6,000 \$    OK

If you need money in a hurry, you can borrow money from the bank in the finance view. Be aware that the interest is high and this will increase the amount you will have to pay back.

### The PDA

Press the I-key to display the PDA. Repeated pressing of the I-key switches through the individual screens.

The PDA displays a map of your surroundings, the weather forecast, and your finances for today or statistics on the game. In multiplayer mode, an additional screen displays a list of names of all the players.

### The game menu

If you press the Esc-key you will go to the game menu. Here you can use the arrows at the top of the screen to switch between several views that provide you with an overview of your ski region. A number of functions that you can activate in the game using the rotating symbol (e.g., extend facilities), can be called directly from the game menu by clicking the mouse. The button with the question mark on the top left provides you with more information on what you are doing in the current visible screen.

In the game menu, you will also find a view with settings that you can change. In particular, you may find **Timescale** useful: once you have prepared your slopes and facilities for the guests, you can use this option to speed up the time and watch your account grow (hopefully). As soon as you notice that something needs your attention (for instance, the condition of a slope has worsened), you can reset the timescale to real time.

The buttons on the lower edge of the game menu screen allow you to save or exit the current game.

## Target groups - Guest Statistics

To simplify the overview, the guests are divided into target groups. Altogether there are five categories: youths, singles, families, young seniors and couples. Each of these groups has different preferences and dislikes. If you take a look at the statistics in the game menu, you can see the average satisfaction of the target groups. The game help supplies you with more exact information on the individual target groups.

### More guests

The number of guests that visit your ski region is determined by several factors: your popularity and the number of parking spaces and hotels that you own.

Hotels are quite expensive and have high operating costs and you should keep this in mind until you have earned a lot of money.

In the case of parking spaces, you must ensure that they are always clear of snow; otherwise they will not be used.

### Your popularity

At the end of the day, the relationship between happy and unhappy visitors determines whether your popularity increases or decreases. Your popularity does not only influence the number of guests but also their initial satisfaction.

### Tips

Use the telephone boxes in the village to receive a series of hints about the game.

If you see a rotating cable car symbol at one of the stations, this means that you can control the cable car yourself.

Try out different strategies when extending facilities: do you want to concentrate on a certain target group or rather offer a wide range of different facilities?

All vehicles, equipment and facilities that you have purchased, have running costs. Take this into consideration when purchasing equipment, whether the investment is worth it in the long term.

Since you can use the tab-key to jump between your vehicles, it is advisable in the case of remote stations to park snow mobiles there so that you do not need to drive there.

If you are looking for a challenge, then select a higher degree of difficulty: if set to "difficult", your debt to the bank is € 50,000 at the beginning of the game and you must be careful not to go bankrupt after the first week.

## Multiplayer mode

With Ski Region Simulator, you can manage and take care of the ski region with several other players. The players cooperate and help each other.

Select the multiplayer option in the main menu to begin a multiplayer game or to join a game that is already in progress.

### Join a game

Select this option to join a game already in progress. You receive a list of all the currently available games, from which you can make your choice. If a game is running with mods, you must also install them. You can take a look at the details of the relevant game to see if mods are required.

### Create game

Here you can start your own game which other players can join. With a normal career, you select the game score, degree of difficulty and map first. Finally, a view is displayed with further settings where for example, you can determine the number of permitted players or the mods used. Clicking start begins the game.

### Chat

In order to communicate with the other players, you must first start a chat by pressing the T-key and send them a text message.

### Exchanging money

In multiplayer mode, each player has his own capital. However, you can transfer money to other players by pressing the L-key and selecting the amount of money to be transferred in the following menu.

Further information on the multiplayer mode can be found under [www.skiregion-simulator.de](http://www.skiregion-simulator.de) in the support area.

## Liability

This software was written, tested and produced with the utmost care. Please make sure that your computer meets the requirements made by the software. The publisher assumes no responsibility for any problems or damage that may result from errors or omissions. The publisher does not make any claim to complete accuracy as this software is intended for entertainment purposes only.

## Troubleshooting and Support

Keep posted to [www.excalibur-publishing.com](http://www.excalibur-publishing.com) for the latest info on Ski Region Simulator including any updates that may be released. You can contact us for technical support or other queries by selecting the Company menu and using the "Support" option in the drop down menu. In this section you will also be able to see if there are any new patches or updates for Ski Region Simulator.

Before contacting technical support with a problem, be sure you have done the following:

- Followed the Install Guide completely
- Have checked the website for any updates
- Have downloaded and installed any updates

When contacting technical support, be sure to include the following information:

- Operating System (XP, 2000, Vista, 7)
- The exact name of the product (Ski Region Simulator)
- Report any and all error messages reported or report the problem you are having by providing a step-by-step
- If it is a visual problem, describe the screen with as much detail as you can.

## Settings for older PCs

If Ski Region Simulator runs too slowly on your PC, you can reduce the performance of the game in the options menu until it runs smoothly.

## Child protection

The child protection integrated into Windows Vista and Windows 7 allows parents and guardians to control the use and restrict the playing time of games by setting the age. You can find further information at [www.gamesforwindows.com/isyourfamilyset](http://www.gamesforwindows.com/isyourfamilyset).

## Product Registration

We recommend that you register your software with us. If you do so we can keep a record of your registration and you may benefit from upgrades should they become available in the future. You can register your software easily on-line on our website [www.excalibur-publishing.com](http://www.excalibur-publishing.com) and select "Register."



# *Ski Region Simulator*



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