

FIREFLY-THE PC GAME

Including...

BLUE SUN RIM EXPANSION*
KALIDASA RIM EXPANSION

Overview

The PC Game stays true to the Rulebooks for the most part, however there may be a few liberties taken to improve the PC experience without giving up major elements where possible.

There are a few GUI elements that need explaining to ensure you have full control over your Ship, Crew and Gear.

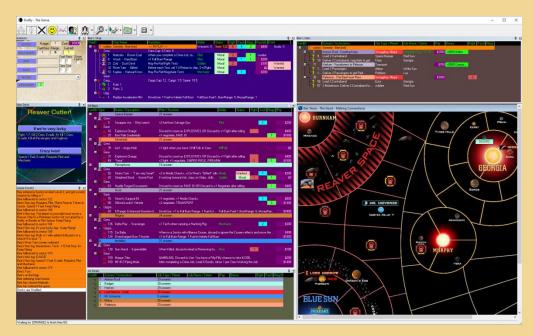
The Toolbar



This is your main control panel giving you access to Start/Host(MP) a new Game, Join a Game, Chat (MP), view Story Info, browse all Crews, and open/close the main Game pages for your Ship, Jobs, Deals and Buys as well as options (via the dropdown menu) to view your opponents as well in MP (multiplayer).

Docking the windowed Displays

The multi-document interface allows for the main displays to be docked in a number of ways to the borders of the Main Game Window. See here for more.



Starting the Game



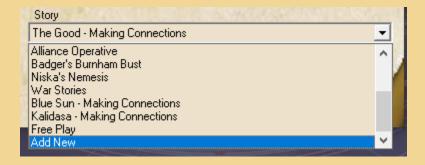
For Single or Multiplay, press the Host button to get started.

NB: For Multiplay, see the section below in this Guide.

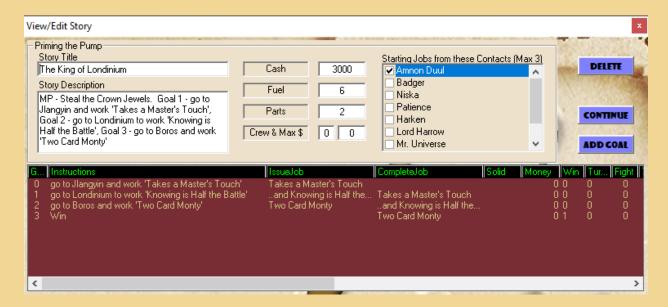
Select the **auto move** option to have NPC Ship moves done randomly, otherwise they will be manually moved by the appropriate player. In Single Play mode, that will be you.



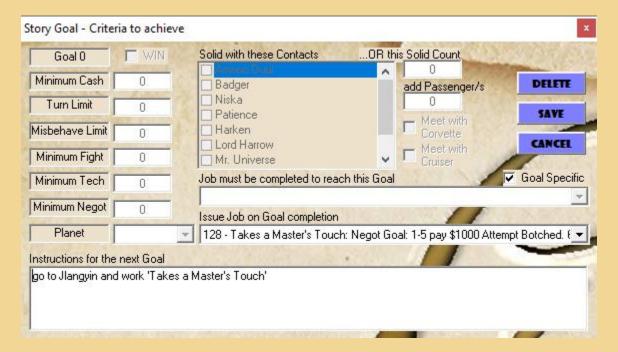
Pick an existing Story, or Add a New one of your making, choosing "Add New" at the end of the dropdown list.



In all cases a View/Edit dialogue is displayed so that you can peruse the details of the Goal criteria, and if you are making a new story, start adding startup parameters and new Goals.



Stories must always have a Goal '0', even if left blank, but it provides a place for startup instructions and to provide a specific initial Job. Dbl-Click on a Goal in the List if you want to view or edit it.



The last Goal should have the Win Flag set to ensure that a logical end occurs.



NB: 'Goal' Jobs (ContactID=0) must be setup manually in the Game Database in the current version, no GUI editor exists for those as yet. It is possible to choose from Contact Jobs be deselecting the 'Goal Specific' flag.

Press **CONTINUE** after Story selection/editing is done.

Pressing the **JOIN** Button locks in the Player/s and the **START** button appears.



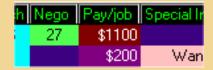
Pressing **START** then rolls the 'dice' and selects who will get first dibs on a Leader.



Scroll through the Dropdown list to pick a Leader that suits your requirements.



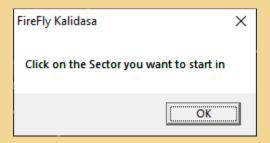
Some Stories will allow you to pick additional Crew from the get-go. There will be a limit on the number you can select and also the overall Hire Cost. The Hire Cost is summated at the top of the Pay/Job column.





Press **SELECT** once you're done to continue.

In reverse order of players (in Multiplay) you will be asked to select a Sector on the Map.



Click OK, and then click on a Sector on the Map. You can use the Scroll bar at the side and bottom of screen to move unseen portions of the Map into view.

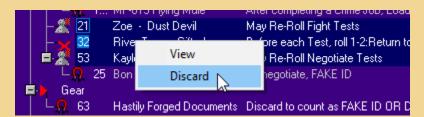
It is possible to Click and Drag the Map directly, however results on smoothness of the drag may vary.

Your Ship Display

Only Gear linked to a Crew member is counted on a Job, therefore be sure to allocate any unlinked Gear to a Crew. To do this, click, then click- **drag** & **drop** the Gear onto the Crew.



To remove, click, then click-**drag** & **drop** the Gear back onto the Gear Heading. You can also View, or Discard a Crew member, or their Gear via the Right-Click Menu. Other menu functions will become available as well with gear and goods.



If you are in the Same Sector as another Player's Ship, you can 'Trade' Supplies by Right-Clicking on their Name when viewing 'All' Ships. Also, Right-Clicking a disgruntled Crew member to offer them 'a better deal' using the 'Poach' option.





Your Jobs Display

Inactive Jobs can be discarded using the Right-Click Menu.



As Jobs parts are completed, the parts are shown with a Tick



Your Turn Actions Display



Each turn, depending on SP or MP mode, you will be able to choose a number of actions that are appropriate to your current location. Eg. If you are at a Contact's location, the **DEAL** action will be available.

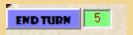
To **MOSEY** or **FULL BURN**, click the button and then click on the adjacent sector on the Map to fly to. Some sectors have a smaller 'hotspot' for registering mouse clicks, so it's always best to click in the centre of the sector.

Also any Job that is workable will appear in the work dropdown list. Pick any one to **WORK** for that action. All Planet Sectors have the 'Make Work' Job available.

When appropriate, you can sell Cargo & Contraband as part of a Deal, or Buy Fuel & Parts from a Supply location. The 'Shore Leave' option, as per the Rules, takes up a Buy action completely.

When appropriate, other functions may appear on the Action Display from time to time based on Gear or Crew abilities.

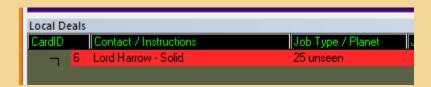
You may use **END TURN** to end the current turn, even before all available actions have been used if appropriate for your situation. In SP, you must press **END TURN** to cycle the next turn, whereas in MP, the turn automatically ends after 2 Actions have been completed.



The number next to **END TURN** is the turn counter, used in some gameplays as a target to finish prior 20 turns for example.

Deals Display

At a Contacts location, you can use the **DEAL** Action to access a list of Jobs. Sometimes, at the start of a game, the list will be empty.



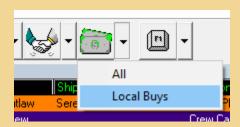
The button caption changes to **DRAW CARDS**. Press that to reveal 3 Jobs from the deck.



Deals up for Consideration will have been marked with a ? mark. As you select Jobs, they are ticked. Finally pressing **CLOSE DEAL** will add the selected Jobs to your Job Display. Any Cargo or Contraband sold with Solid Contacts will tally towards your money as part of the Deal.

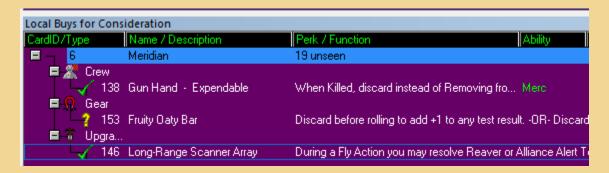
Buy Display

Hiring Crew and buying Gear & Ship upgrades operates similarly to Deals. As with most displays, you can switch between your own (local), and all players details (in MP) using the toolbars dropdown menu for each display. For the Deals and Buy Displays, 'All' shows every Contact or Supply's 'discard' listings.



At first, in a **BUY** action, each item will have a red X. Selecting up to 3 can be done to proceed to the 'Consideration' step as marked with a ? If 3 are selected **CONSIDER** takes you to the next step.

DRAW CARDS will pull any extra cards to make up 3 if appropriate.

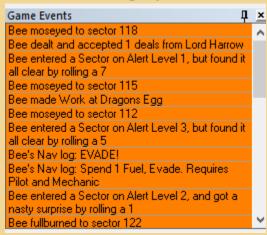


Tick the items you want to buy and choose **CLOSE BUY** to complete the transaction.



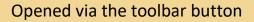
Don't forget to add any Fuel or Parts before you Close the Buy action.

The Events Display



Keeps everyone up with what's happening with the most recent event always at the top.

Game Info





This provides a quick reminder of the current story objectives, details of Contacts and who you are Solid with (green highlight)





Solid status is also displayed directly on the Map

Multiplayer Mode (MP)

Up to 4 Players are supported, however the requirements are that they all must have file access to the same Game Database (FireflyBlueSun.mdb). This can be achieved using a File Server on a LAN and installing the Game to a Shared Folder. All Users should start the FireflyBlueSun.exe from this shared folder, *after* installing the game on their own PC in order to register the supporting files.

Play over the internet is possible if a good VPN connection is setup to give the same access as mentioned above. Results may vary.



The Host sets up the waiting room using this button



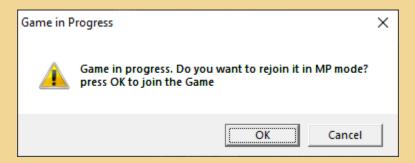
Other Players **JOIN** using to get a similar screen.

Once all players have joined and have selected a ship, the Host then presses

As per the Game Rules, a random roll lets one person at a time select a Leader, and then in reverse order selects a starting Sector on the Map. The Action Window then appears for each player in turn and away you go.

Multiplayer Mode continued.. (MP)

When Playing with multiple players, it is possible to all exit the game, and pick up where you left off at another time. Simply have all players close the application at the <u>start</u> of any players turn. When ready to restart the Game, <u>all</u> players choose the **Join** button and the game will ask you to confirm the re-join.



Then select your name from the list to continue where you left off. If it was your go when the game was closed, Actions will be immediately available.



NB: It's entirely possible that each player could start, rejoin, play their turn on their own, then exit after the turn has passed to the next player. i.e. The Game does not need a Host once it has commenced.

Use the 'End Game' toolbar button if you wish to withdraw from a Game altogether. If it was your turn, the turn will be passed to the next player.

Saving a Game

There is no "Save" option as such, but there is a way to preserve a game in progress, and start a fresh game. The Game's database *is* the Save File.

So after you quit a game in progress (just close using Alt-F4 or the top right windows 'x' button, *not* the Toolbar End Game 'X'), go into the Game's folder and copy/paste the **FireflyKalidasa.mdb** data file, and rename the new copy.

Then restart a new Game using the Host button as usual – choosing to 'reset' the game in progress. Away you go..

When you are ready to resume your 'GameNightSave', delete or rename the current data file, then rename the save file back to **FireflyKalidasa.mdb** and continue on.

Alternatively, you can setup a **new game EXE shortcut** for each 'save' file, placing the full path to the data file *after* the **FireFlyKalidasa.exe** in the Target.

Eg.

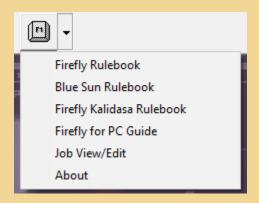
FireFlyKalidasa GameNight Properties					×
General Shorto	cut Compatibility	Security	Details		
FireFlyKalidasa GameNight					
Target type: Application					
Target location: D:\					
Target:					
Start in:	C:\Games\				

This way you could have many in-progress games available to start.

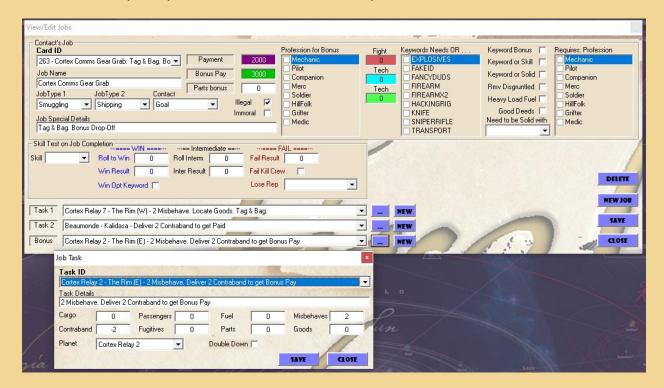
For MP, all users must have access to start this shortcut, which needs to exist in a shared LAN Folder.

Job Editing (advanced)

It is possible to add or edit Jobs if you seek some additions or changes.



Under the Help dropdown menu, there is an option for Job view/edit.



NB: New Contact or Goal jobs can be added this way. It is recommended to peruse and follow existing Job attribute combinations, as choosing new ones may have unpredictable results. There is no cross validation in place to prevent conflicting selections.

Using the editor, it would be possible to setup your own custom Jobs for Mr Universe for example, on account that the game's original Challenges are not supported in this version.

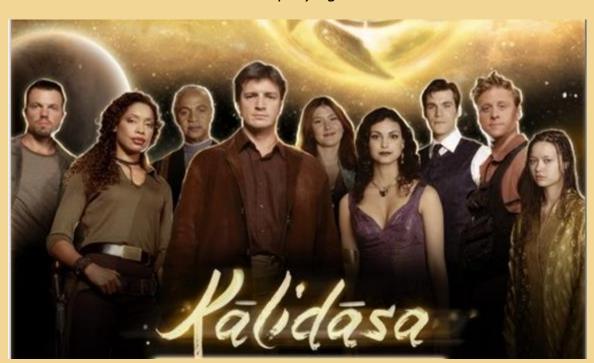
Dev Notes:

*Mr Universe Deals are not currently supported, specifically the "Big Damn Challenges".

Motherlode and Uroboros Belts are not supported, Jobs originally for these are allocated to one of the planets in the belt.

Player Trading and Crew poaching is now supported when in the same sector.

The game uses the **SHOWCARD GOTHIC** Font for some button captions. It is included in the Setup if your PC does not already have it.



Keep Flying!

