

Horenbergsdam (GBE) made by OLD_Mumhra



Hey all,

been a few years since i made a track for MTM2. I started a few projects but i did not finish one of them. I always encountered some problems somewhere down the line and the project got sidelined and later on i forgot all about it. But in december 2007 i heard that there was going to be an expo in honour of Guitar Bill. So i decided to start with a complete new track. I had a few ideas in my head and a few custom made objects somewhere on this computer so i started working.

First up I needed an idea. Well, about a year ago i bought myself a dirt bike. At the age of 35 after 15 years without even riding a dirt bike I quickly felt that i lacked stamina. I still had the feeling on how to ride on mx tracks but i was not fit enough at all. So i started going to the gym, cycling, running, power training, ...The fitter i got, the better the riding went. At first i could only do 3 10 minutes practise sessions but after a few months i did 3 sessions of 35 minutes. So i was happy.

Because of all the practise that comes with it motorcross again turned into a huge part of my life so best thing to make in honor of Bill was something that interests me a lot.... motorcross.

Maybe it is because i don't have much imagination but i always try and make my tracks look lifelike. I like my MTM tracks to be as close to the real thing as possible. So i decided to remake a real life mx track. The Horenbergsdam is a track located in Genk, a city approx 20 miles from where I live. The track is there for as long as I can remember. So it must be close to 40 years old. A few years ago there still were GP's held on that track. It's a very spectacular track but the last 5 years it has become a little outdated. There are no more GP's held on it but there still are races for the belgian championship competed in Genk. When there is no race scheduled the track is open for pro and amateur riders as a training facility. I often go and practise there and i often have been riding there together with several pro riders. The Horenbergsdam is situated on a dam. This dam is made by nature and must be conquered 7 times each lap. On the north side you are riding in the forests while the south side is a wide open plain where the paddock and stuff are located. Because the track is so old the dam is a little rutted out but it still is an amazing jump. On the lowest part the dam is approx 18 feet high. On the highest part it is a gigantic 27 feet high. It's a huge jump, I can tell you that lol. Besides the 7 times you have to jump over the dam there also are 6 man made jumps which include a step up, a triple, a table top and more. There also is a whoop section on the track.

Since the track is a remake from a real track it is easy to overshoot the turns in MTM2. The gravity in most computer games is set to be very low in order to make huge, spectacular jumps. MTM2 is no difference. But because of that driving over a 24 feet jump makes your monster truck fly very far and it will therefor overshoot the turns. Be carefull on the dam, throttle control is essential there.

Another feature i made are custom models. First i added the flags of the 7 biggest motorcross nations in the world namely USA, Great-Britain, Belgium, Australia, South-Africa, Italy and France

Other custom made models are the haybales. I borrowed them from another MTM2 track but i repainted them to make them more to the standards of 2008. The logo's on them now (Alpinestars, Fox, Thor, MX1, AMA and FIM) are registered trademarks and are used by permission of the respective owners. (and if you don't believe that i will con you into something else :D)

I also made a few billboards to honour 5 of the best riders in the world at this moment.

- Ricky Carmichael (The G.O.A.T.) on his Suzuki RMZ 450 in 2006
- Stefan Everts (The Legend) on his Yamaha YZF 450 in 2006
- Ben Townley (T-Dog) on his KTM SXF 250 in 2005
- Kevin Windham (K-Dub) on his Honda CRF 450 in 2006
- James Stewart (Bubba) on his Kawaski KX 125 in 2004

There also is a picture of me. The bitmap image on the race screen is a pic of me on my Honda CR 125. The pic was taken on septembre 16th 2007 in Genk on the Horenbergsdam. It is taken on one of the jumps over the big dam. It maybe does not look like it but i'm actually over 20 feet above solid ground at that moment.

I also honoured the 5 biggest mx bike manufacturers in the world by making 5 different CP markers. One for each brand, Honda, Kawasaki, Suzuki, Yamaha and KTM.

On top of that i made 4 new models. 4 different bikes. A Honda, a Yamaha, a Kawasaki and a Suzuki. I made them by repainting a model i found on Mal's scrapyard.

One thing i did not bother working on is ai truck behaviour. This because of the nature of a "real "motocross track. The start is always situated somewhere far away from the actual track. The ai can't even find CP1 because they just can't find the track lol. Maybe i would find a solution if i tried but the ai in this game is so bad that i did not bother with it at all. I actually wonder who calls those trucks ai. According to me it should be ani (artificial non-intelligence). I mean : "How Stupid can you make ai ??"

My best lap so far is 1.59.47 and i did that using 1200 ms. I did not test any other setups but according to me something in between 1000 and 1400 should be the ideal gearing. And with medium tyres and soft suspension you can hardly ever go wrong.

Thanks go to :

- Guitar Bill ofcourse. This track is made in his memory. Biff is on the track somewhere in GB's honour.
- Malibu for his scrapyard. I always find the stuff i need over there.
- Everybody at MTMG for keeping the game alive
- Shadowprincess for her weekly tournaments with which she keeps MTM2 racing alive
- Everybody who i borrowed stuff from in order to make this track
- Everybody at team OLD. Go OLD's :)

The background music is made by a dutch band called Normaal. Translated that is "Normal" and i can tell you that those 4 guys are anything but normal lol. The band was formed in the late '70s and all 4 members are mx riders themselves. They were extremely popular in Holland and in the dutch speaking part of Belgium. 1 song (Oerend hard with means incredibly fast) has been nr 1 in the charts in the '80s over here. These days "Normaal" still are popular with mx people. They often give great gigs on big motocross events. The song i choose is not "Oerend hard" but "Motorcrossen" because i think that this song has more an mx feeling to it.

Most MTM2 racers, including me, never have background music playing while racing but i suggest you turn the music on before driving on this track. It really gives an extra dimension to the track imo. It creates the motorcross atmosphere which this track is all about.

Official website of Normaal : <http://www.normaal.nl/main.htm>

Lyrics of Motorcrossen by Normaal :

Zondagsmorgens vroeg uit bed	(Sunday morning, early out of bed)
Brood gesmeerd en koffie gezet	(made some bread and put the kettle on)
Vrouw en kinder in de bus gezet	(put the wife and kids in the van)
De motor der bi-j dat geet nog net	(and i still had just enough room for the bike)
Goeie sfeer op 't rennerskwartier	(a good atmosphere in the closed pits)
Sterke verhalen, zelfs zonder bier	(people telling strong stories, even without drinking beer)
De blauwe blazer hef 't geluid gekeurd	(the official in blue has checked the sound of my bike)
Doarnea de stoalwol der uuttegepeurd	(so after that i took the isolation out of my exhaust pipe)
Wi-j goat hen crossen, motocrossen	(We are going riding, riding our dirtbikes)
Da's pas een sport, woa-j een keerl van wordt	(now that is a sport of which you'll become a real man)
Wi-j goat hen crossen, motocrossen	(We are going riding, riding our dirtbikes)
Zietspan, solo 't blief geliek	(Sidecars, solo's, it's all the same)
Viertakt maakt de mooiste muziek	(but 4 strokes makes the prettiest music)
Met drie wielen en ok met twee	(On three wheels and also on two)
Liefst wat vaker op tv	(but please show it more often on tv)
Wi-j goat hen crossen, motocrossen	(We are going riding, riding our dirtbikes)
Da's pas een sport, woa-j een keerl van wordt	(now that is a sport of which you'll become a real man)
Wi-j goat hen crossen, motocrossen	(we are going riding, riding our dirtbikes)
Oaver de springbult en deur 't knipgat	(over the big jumps and through the whoops)
A-j van zo'n ding valt, dan geet 't hard	(if you fall off it is going to hurt)
Davy, John, Kees en Gert-Jan	(Davy, John, Kees and Gert-Jan) (4 dutch pro riders in the '80s)
Onze jongens die ri-jt veur an	(our guys are riding up front)
Vijf seconden, 't starthek neer	(5 seconds, the gate drops)
De hel breekt los, zie goat as een speer	(Hell breaks loose, we go as a rocket)
En de viertakt dan	(And then that 4 stroke)
Brullende megafoon	(Roaring megaphone)
Wi-j goat hen crossen, motocrossen	(We are going riding, riding our dirtbike)
Da's pas een sport, woa-j een keerl van wordt	(Now that is a sport of which you'll become a real man)
Wi-j goat hen crossen, motocrossen	(We are going riding, riding our dirtbikes)
Wi-j goat hen crossen, motocrossen	(We are going riding, riding our dirtbikes)



And finally a few pics made on the real Horenbergsdam in Genk...

First up a mate of mine (Marco) clearing the big table top on his Yamaha 450 quad. In the background you see the dam



Next up Rui Goncalves from Portugal. A rider that rides for the KTM MX2 factory team and was also practising in Genk



Christophe Pourcel from France flying over the dam. This kid became world champion MX2 in 2006



Some kid jumping into the forest on his Kawasaki KX85



And finally Joël Roelandts. One of belgians fastest amateur riders. You see him jumping the table and in the background you see another mate of mine (Geert) coming over the dam on his blue Yamaha YZ-F 450 quad



That's all. Hope you guys will enjoy the track :)

Greeetttzzzz
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the-ever-living-one