

PRODUCT REVIEW BY STEVE LITA

CARDO BLUETOOTH HEADSET

Talk with your passenger all you want

LIKE TO TALK WITH YOUR PASSENGER WHILE wearing full helmets? Then the Bluetooth-equipped Cardo Scala Rider TeamSet headset kit (\$279.99) may be the setup for you.

The driver's headset contains a module that comes with an intercom function that also lets you connect with a Bluetooth-equipped phone. The passenger unit contains only the intercom. However, once the driver answers a call, the passenger can listen in using the conference call function. The helmet brackets attach easily and leave no trace if removed. The electronic headsets slide onto the brackets and click into place, and are removable for easy charging and security. When installing the helmet brackets be sure to adjust the boom so the microphone tip is right in front of your mouth and the mic is positioned vertically, not horizontally. Incoming calls may be rejected or accepted by voice control or by just tapping



the large side button. The intercom system is activated by simply barking out your first word.

The downside of the system is that the driver-to-passenger intercom feature only works within a 20' radius, so off-the-bike conversation fades fast. Also, I found the

volume to be slightly subdued — and my hearing is fine. During my test, the party I was speaking with commented that my voice was coming through clearly while I found hers a bit soft inside my helmet, even with the volume turned up to the max. The Scala system also has a feature that automatically raises the volume level if the surrounding noise increases; however, it never seemed to be loud enough for me. Suffice it to say that you won't miss an important call or quick message, but conducting a long, intense conversation is not suggested.

But you should be enjoying the ride anyway, right? AIM

SOURCES

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