CONNECTEDINTERPHONE F5

The Interphone F5 is a Bluetooth communication system that can be used by one person, as a phone, music player, radar detector solution or by multi users with what is referred to as a conference system care of its Bluetooth 3 technology.

Not that many people have conferences on motorcycles; but it lets multiple users communicate, as well as rider to pillion. The kit comes complete with a low-profile microphone for full-face helmets, or for those with flip-fronts or open-face versions there's a separate attachment giving a semi-rigid mount and a foam wrapped microphone. This enables you to use the mic sitting in the breeze, as long as it isn't a 160km/h 'wind' that is.

The control can either clamp to your helmet, or if you wish to have it as a semi-permanent fixture, there is an adhesive-backed mount included. The easy to feel control unit has a central power on and accept function and four directional presspads. Even with gloves on, these are easily felt and they switch between modes and control the volume of the crisp and quality-sounding speakers, which use adhesive to mount in the ear-cups of the helmet. Less than 10mm thick, most helmets will accommodate these without you ever noticing them unless your phone rings, you're listening to your favourite tunes, or you hear the cost-cutting sound of your detector sounding off. This also means when you are enjoying the solitude of your helmet and you don't wish to be in contact with the



outside world, your hearing isn't blocked out by the speakers and they don't cause you any discomfort. There's also the option to run either one or two headphones, for those that don't want sound in both lugholes...

The menu (and set-up menu) is clear and concise, running you step-by-step through the process, although not all the Bluetooth devices you try to 'pair' are as straightforward from their end. Once sorted, if you want to ride with tunes or need to communicate by phone or 'conference', it works seemlessly. It is also easy to turn off the phone and chat network, if you want to enjoy the peace and quiet but still have your radar out, so to speak. To remove the main unit, simply detach the USB feed plug at the rear and unclip it from the base attachment for off-helmet charging. You can leave it in place if you wish to place your helmet by the outlet – handy if you tend to forget things, like your Interphone F5 until you're well out of town...



DISTRIBUTED BY WHITE'S POWERSPORTS RATING: 8/10

PROS: COMMUNICATION WITHOUT CABLES, EASY TO FEEL CONTROLS AND CLEAN, CRISP SOUND

CONS: LIMITED RANGE (ABOUT 1KM) BUT YOU CAN ALWAYS CALL THEM ON THE VOICE ACTIVATED PHONE FUNCTION