

[TESTED]

Smart Brake Tech

Deceleration detecting brake, turn signal and running lights

THE PROBLEM IS no matter how bright our brake lights, their effectiveness comes down to the reaction time of the guy behind us. Now combine this with the fact that motorcyclists don't always apply their brakes to slow down—no brakes equals no lights—and our safety is compromised. If we're in a low gear, we might just let off the throttle to slow down, or we'll downshift when coming to a turn and let the engine slow us down. Not all deceleration is a hard brake before coming to a complete stop. Really, most riding is a combination of all the above. Wouldn't it be safer if the driver behind you knew you were slowing down before you actually used your brake? Remember, split seconds can make the difference.

Which brings us to new tech by AdMore Lighting, which has created a sophisticated sensor that detects deceleration before the rider even applies the brakes. By embedding this sensor, named Smart Brake Technology, into their LED Light Bar, the risk of rear-end collisions can be reduced significantly.

Like other AdMore light bar models, this new version incorporates high-quality Cree bi-color (red/amber) LEDs that provide built-in running lights, progressive amber turn signals and brake lights. A new center column of super bright, white LEDs also flashes continuously while the brakes are applied, an effective technique for getting the attention of distracted drivers. But it's the company's newest brake light bar with Smart Brake technology that puts it in the 'must have' category for safety-concerned riders.

The Light Bar comes out-of-the-box pre-configured with the most popular set-

tings but customizing can be easily done using an app along with the included Micro-USB cable. I'm a Mac person, so the simple instructions, "Windows 7,8 & 10 compatible or Command Line [Linux or MAC OS] compatible" required more thought than I'm used to. But a customer service phone number is included in the package and questions are quickly taken care of. Programmable features include brightness level, deceleration sensitivity, brake light modulation, white strobe light, and license plate light on/off.

I found installation to be pretty straightforward, taking about an hour of my time (or half-hour of a professional, I'm sure), but viewing the video on AdMore's site was confidence inspiring. All required pieces were included, and Posi-Tap wire connectors were appreciated. For late-model BMWs, it's compatible with a CanBUS electrical system, and for older bikes, the power draw is only eight watts.

The product's quality seemed to match my BMW's, and arrived well packaged. At only 8" x 1.25" x 1", it was a discreet addition—until it turns on and grabs the attention of that cell-phone junkie driving behind you! Available for \$200 from twistedthrottle.com/smartbrake or admorelighting.com.

—Mark Whitley



Bi-color red/amber LEDs provide both brake and turn signals while a column of white LEDs in the center flash when the brakes are applied.

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