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o, you're out cruising the trails on a wonderful winter day when you see a yellow or green light coming at you ... don't be alarmed ... it's the future you're seeing. For everyone who is familiar with the current hand-signal system used on the trails, the Communication Safety System, (CSS) is a technology that uses lights to communicate with other sledders instead of removing your hands from the handlebars. It's a very simple concept:

• See yellow - more sleds are approaching

• See green – end of the group or there is no need to change it unless riding alone you pull over and change the rid-

The system also has a flashing hazard mode to be used when a rider needs assistance. This technology is not mandatory on your sled but it adds to your safety. Have you ever tried to figure out what another rider is signaling at night? The CSS answers that question for you.

The CSS mounts to the left-hand side of the hood or the left handle-bar. It features a control box with a switch located on the back of the unit to change the light as needed. Generally, once you set the light,

there is no need to change it unless you pull over and change the riding position in your group. VAST has outfitted 10 association and 10 law enforcement sleds with the CSS and most recently at the I.S.C. (International Snowmobile Congress) the Michigan Snowmobile Association, purchased 20 CSS units for their association sleds.

For more information on this technology, please visit www.communicationsafetysystem.com.

Modified from an article by Gary Broderick, Vice-President, NYSSA



When you are a little guy like me, a 750 lb touring sled goes where it's pointed. Thake one hand off the bars while rounding a corner and this is what can happen when you signal on coming traffic that there is a sled behind you. No one was hurt, the sled was not damaged, but we did have to wait for help to get the sled uprighted again. Can't wait to get my Global Industries lights!