



## ***GCS Warrior's Personal Lighting System Pouch for The Streamlight Sidewinder, Streamlight Compact and Helmet Mount.***

***By: Sal Palma***



Wonderful things happen when enterprise thinks out of the box and develops new, interesting and innovative products. All too often, the tactical community is exposed to a rehash of old concepts that don't offer a real solution; instead they repackage the same shortcomings. So, when I look for a pouch, I critically assess whether it addresses the real need and how effectively does it meet that requirement.

About a year ago, I made a commitment to Streamlight's Sidewinder and its smaller cousin the Compact. The total package that included the helmet mount impressed me as a system. Its functionality, ease of use and durability satisfied all but the most specific of my personal lighting needs. However, it soon became awkward to carry and stow all three components in a manner that made them readily accessible. Then, about three months ago, I ran across GCS Warrior's WEB site and my prayers were answered. There it was in full splendor The GCS Personal Lighting System Pouch, made **specifically** for Streamlight's Sidewinder System.

I contacted the folks at GCS to find out if the pouch was available as a standalone product. Ken informed me that it was and arranged for a sample.

The pouch arrived in short order, but candidly, at its very modest price of \$28.90, I was not expecting superior quality. I was simply thankful that I could keep both of the lights and helmet mount together. Well, great things come in small packages and this little pouch floored me. Not only was the build quality on par with BAE Eclipse but everything fit!



Ha - this was the end to digging around a dump pouch for the lights, mount and batteries! Everything in its place, and a place for everything, outstanding.

GCS fabricated the PLS pouch on a single panel that is M.O.L.L.E. compatible as shown below.





The footprint is approximately 5"x5" so it fits compactly on either a vest or a patrol belt. I prefer the latter because I like my center of gravity to be lower. I find that it increases my stability and reduces back strain, so I tend to shift pouches down towards my hips.



The pouch has three compartments from left to right, the large pocket holds the Streamlight Sidewinder, the smaller pocket at the top and to the right holds the Streamlight Compact and the small pocket on the bottom and to the right holds the helmet mount with room for a set of spare batteries. The pouch is made of 1000 Denier Cordura reinforced and double stitched at all stress points. All flaps use Velcro closure to ensure that they won't fly open. The material is treated for Near Infrared Spectral Reflectance or NIR to ensure a low IR signature. Finally, the Sidewinder and Compact pockets are fitted with drain grommets.



Readers that don't have a Streamlight Sidewinder and Compact light set will also benefit from owning a PLS pouch because, it just so happens that a Garmin GPS receiver will fit in the large pocket, your lensatic compass will fit in the Compact pocket and your iPod Shuffle will fit in the helmet mount pocket. You could not ask for a more flexible or well thought out pouch, at an incredible price.

GCS Warrior also sell the Streamlight kit, including the PLS pouch, for \$152.

Additional product details are available by visiting GCS Warrior's WEB site at <http://www.gcswarrior.com>

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