

## **ATV Winch Rope Replacement**

### **Winch Rope Versus Cable**

While the vast majority of ATV winches are manufactured with cable, the practicality of cable isn't equal to that of synthetic rope. Cable is heavy in relation to the load it can bear, it splinters and frays and it is dangerous when it breaks under tension.

Synthetic rope is 1 1/2 times stronger than steel and 1/7 the weight. On a 1:1 weight ratio, synthetic rope is 15 times stronger than steel cable.

In addition, synthetic rope is much safer to be around if it breaks under tension. Cable stretches when pulled from both ends which causes it to recoil like a rubber band when it breaks under tension. There is very little elongation with synthetic rope when it is under tension. If it breaks, the rope simply drops to the ground.

### **Replacing Cable with Synthetic Rope**

Once you've decided you've had enough of steel splinters and enough of bent and frayed cable and commit to replacing it with ATV winch rope, you've finished the hard part. Replacing the cable is easy and it will be the last time you'll get metal splinters from your winch!

#### **Removing the Cable-**

Pull or feed the cable out until there are no more wraps around the spool. Remove the fair lead bolts from the frame of the front of your ATV. Pull the fair lead from the frame to gain access to the spool (the cable will still be inside the fair lead).

Rotate the spool back and forth until you can see where the cable comes out of the spool, having been threaded in from a hole on the other side. Next to where the end of the cable comes out, it will be doubled back into a hole next to the exit hole. Force a screwdriver in between the spool and the U in the cable. Pry the end of the cable out of the secondary hole. Straighten the bend out of the cable and pull it out of the spool from single hole side of the spool. Pull the cable out of the fair lead.

#### **Attaching the Synthetic Rope-**

Thread the end of the rope into the spool on the side with a single hole. Push the rope through the center of the spool and out one of the holes on the opposite side. Pull a five or six inches of the tail out the other side of the spool, bend it over and stuff it in the second hole to make a U. Pull the rope taught from the single hole side of the spool. Using the "In" button on the winch motor, begin rotating the spool and wrapping the rope around it.