## How to join recovery straps.....

### ALWAYS USE SNATCH STRAPS WITH EXTREME CAUTION AND ENSURE THAT ONLOOKERS ARE WELL OUT OF THE DANGER ZONE.

Many different methods are used to join recovery straps, i.e snatch straps, winch extension straps and tree protectors. These methods have ranged from "downright lethal", through "very dangerous" to "acceptable" and "best".

Snatch straps can be **dangerous** if they break during a recovery operation and if more than one is needed and they are joined incorrectly, and they break, or the joint fails then they can be **LETHAL**.

Remember, in all cases where a snatch-strap is used, place a damper on the strap(s) midway between the two vehicles to dampen the strap should it break etc.

#### The "Do's" and "Dont's" of Joining Recovery Straps.

## DANGER !!!

In this INCORRECT method, the end of one strap is inserted through the eye of the other strap and a stick inserted through the eye of the first strap.

The problem here is if the stick or strap breaks. there is nothing left to join the straps and they will fly back with tremendous force cutting through anything in their way. Being inside the vehicle will not guarantee your safety.

This method may be quick but is extremely DANGEROUS.



DO NOT USE THIS METHOD

#### DO NOT USE A SHACKLE TO JOIN STRAPS:

## DANGER !!!

In this **INCORRECT** method the snatch straps are joined with a shackle.

If the strap breaks then the unbroken strap, and shackle, will fly back toward the vehicle with enough force to cut down anything in its way, including the human body. Being inside the vehicle will not guarantee your safety.

This method may be quick but is extremely DANGEROUS.



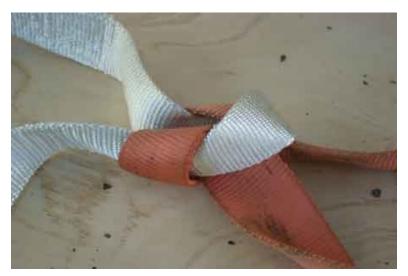
DO NOT USE THIS METHOD

#### NO !!!

In this **INCORRECT** method the straps are tied together.

If the knot happens to stay tied, then the joint will become incredibly tight and will be almost impossible to untie.

In the more likely event of the knot slipping then the straps will fly apart with great force and anything in their way will be cut down, including the human body. Being inside the vehicle may not guarantee your safety.



DO NOT USE THIS METHOD

### MUCH BETTER!!!

This is an acceptable method of joining straps, but is not recommended because the joint will become incredibly tight under use and will be almost impossible to undo.

In this method, the end of one strap is passed through the eye of the other strap and then the other end of the second strap is passed through the eye of the first strap and pulled all the way through to form a strong joint. This method is acceptable as it will produce a strong joint, but will be extremely difficult to undo after use.



#### THIS IS AN ACCEPTABLE METHOD, but the joint will be nearly impossible to undo after use.

A BETTER WAY!!!

This method is similar to the above method except that a strong stick is inserted, as shown, to prevent the straps pulling tight together. After use, the stick can be removed creating enough slack in the joint to allow easy separation.



THIS IS AN ACCEPTABLE METHOD, but the stick will still do damage if one of the straps break.

# GETTING BETTER!!!

This method is similar to the above method except that a rolled up towel, or similar replaces the stick. After use the towel can be removed creating enough slack in the joint to allow easy separation.



THIS IS THE RECOMMENDED METHOD, as the towel is not likely to cause too much damage if one of the straps break.

### SIMPLE!!!

To facilitate ease and speed of joining straps in the above acceptable methods, fold your straps in half and roll-up with the eyes on the outside. This will present both ends of the straps when you come to join them and avoid the need to fully unravel one of the straps.



#### THIS MAKES THE OPERATION QUICK AND SIMPLE.

As a reminder - the end of one strap is passed through the eye of the other strap and then the other end of the second strap is passed through the eye of the first strap. The second strap can then be pulled all the way through the eye of the first strap to form a strong joint. The use of a rolled up towel, or similar, between the straps will make the joint easier to undo and will cause far less damage than a solid stick if something fails during the recovery operation

