



**07E-077**  
**(25 pages)**



September 26, 2007

*Via E-mail and Certified Mail*

Daniel C. Smith, Esq.  
Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Attention: Recall Management Division (NVS-215)  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.  
Washington, DC 20590

**Re: Carefree of Colorado Folding Camping Trailer Winch: 573 Report  
NHTSA # 07E077**

Dear Mr. Smith:

Enclosed please find a Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report on behalf of Carefree of Colorado ("Carefree"), pursuant to 49 CFR § 573 of the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration ("NHTSA") regulations.

This report follows up on Carefree's initial notification of September 14, 2007, and subsequent communications with your staff member, Kelly Schuler, regarding the initial information submitted to the NHTSA on behalf of Carefree.

We look forward to working with NHTSA to resolve this matter expeditiously. If you have any questions or if you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,  
Carefree of Colorado

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kenneth J. Morris".

Kenneth J. Morris  
Product Manager

Enclosure

**Part 573 Defect and Noncompliance Report for Equipment**  
**NIITSA Recall No. 07E077**

On August 27, 2007, Carefree of Colorado ("Carefree") determined that an incorrect material was used in the manufacture of cable shafts on some production units of Carefree of Colorado's folding camping trailer ("FCT") winch.

**1. The Fabricating Manufacturer's Name**

Carefree of Colorado  
2145 W 6<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Broomfield, Colorado 80020

Manufacturing location:

World Friendship Co., LTD  
No. 16 Gaoli 5th Road  
Dong Shen Gao Li Industrial  
Tang Xia Town,  
Dong Guan City  
P.R.C.

Corporate official whom the Agency should contact with respect to this recall:

Kenneth J. Morris, Product Manager  
Tel.: 303-410-6240  
E-mail: kmorris@carefreeofcolorado.com

Name and title of Person who prepared this report:

Kenneth J. Morris, Product Manager  
Carefree of Colorado

**2. Identification of the Motor Vehicle Equipment Potentially Containing the Defect**

The product is an electric winch that raises the roof of a FCT. Specifically, the product is the Carefree Powerwinch Model P55000 FCT Winch ("FCT Winch"). The basis for Carefree's determination of the recall population is Carefree's discovery that an incorrect material was used in the manufacture of cable shafts that are installed on FCT Winch production units manufactured between February 2007 and August 2007. The FCT Winches that are being recalled are the ones containing the cable shaft that was manufactured with an incorrect material; all other FCT Winches manufactured outside of the time period of February 2007 and August 2007 contain cable shafts that were manufactured with the correct material.

**3. Identification of Every Manufacturer that Purchased the FCT Winch**

See Attachment 1.

**4. Total Number of Vehicles or Items of Equipment Potentially Containing the FCT Winch**

On information and belief, a total of 3,992 FCT Winches are potentially affected. Of the 8,975 FCT Winches made during the period and purchased by Carefree, 2,100 were produced with the correct shaft; 1,855 were in Carefree's inventory and will be replaced. At least two OEMs have already returned a total of 562 FCT Winches to Carefree. Further, Carefree has confirmed that a total of 466 FCT Winches at those OEMs are installed on campers that have not been, and will not be, sold or distributed into the marketplace until the defective component is repaired or replaced.

**5. Approximate Percentage of Vehicles or Items of Equipment Estimated to Actually Contain the FCT Winch**

The approximate percentage of the total number of items of equipment estimated to actually contain the defect is: 100% of the units manufactured between February 1, 2007 and August 31, 2007.

**6. Description of the Defect**

An incorrect material was used in the manufacture of cable shafts on some production units of the FCT Winch. Under certain circumstances while the top is being lifted, if the winch is placed into a stall condition, the cable shaft may break prior to the fuse or circuit breaker tripping. The FCT top could then free-fall into the lowered position. A stall condition can occur by: (1) improper setting of the winch limit switch, (2) seizure of the FCT where the winch is activated to raise the FCT top without releasing the top locking latches, or (3) any other mechanical binding that may restrict the top from being raised while the winch is activated.

Please see the Powerwinch User Manual (Attachment 2) and the Cable Shaft Replacement Instructions (Attachment 3) for additional information.

**7. Chronology of Principal Events, Summary of Warranty Claims, Field or Service Reports, and Other Information**

On July 9, 2007, Carefree initially heard from one folding camper winch manufacturer that one cable shaft had broken. Moments later that manufacturer recontacted Carefree to advise that the breakage was due to an issue related to that manufacturer's operations. On August 23, 2007, the same manufacturer contacted Carefree again and notified Carefree of a second cable shaft breakage. A Carefree Sales Representative conducted an on-site visit at the manufacturer's facility, as well as a second manufacturer's facility, who also advised the Carefree Sales Representative of a problem with the cable shaft that same week.

On August 24, 2007, Carefree's engineering department submitted a request to World Friendship Co., LTD ("World Friendship"), the winch manufacturer in China, for an evaluation of the cable shaft to determine possible reasons for the reported breakage. On August 27, 2007, World Friendship informed Carefree that it used a new material to manufacture the cable shaft. Carefree conducted further tests of the cable shaft and determined that the new material used by World Friendship was unsuitable for its intended purpose.

On September 4, 2007, Carefree verbally notified potentially affected Original Equipment Manufacturers (“OEMs”) and distributors of its intent to conduct a recall of potentially affected FCT winches and began working with them to replace their shaft inventory with new shafts. On September 10, 2007, Carefree initially notified CPSC, by telephone, of its intent to voluntarily recall affected FCT winches and was subsequently advised to contact NHTSA.

On September 14, 2007, Carefree submitted to NHTSA initial information related to the safety recall pursuant to paragraphs (1), (2) and (5) of 49 C.F.R. § 573.6(c), and sent a follow-up written notice to its OEM and distributor customers confirming Carefree’s intent to conduct a recall of the cable shafts. See Attachment 4.

To date, Carefree has not received any reports of injuries, field or service reports or warranty claims related to use of the FCT Winch.

#### **8. Description of Manufacturer’s Program for Remediating the Problem**

Carefree has initiated a recall to repair the FCT Winches. It has already notified OEMs and distributors to prevent affected winches in their inventory from being installed on new units and to assure that installed but unsold units on OEM premises are repaired or replaced prior to further distribution.

Carefree will further notify affected OEMs and distributors of the specifics of the recall plan as soon as NHTSA approves the Notice to OEM Customers and distributors, which Carefree submitted to NHTSA via e-mail on September 25, 2007, and upon NHTSA’s approval of the recall plan described herein. The recall notice requests that affected customers, including OEMs and/or distributors, immediately contact NHTSA and institute a safety recall of any vehicles that contain an FCT Winch produced during the period between February 2007 and August 2007. Carefree recommends that dealers, as owners of potentially affected camper trailers, inspect their inventory to determine if any of their camping trailers contain a defective FCT Winch and, if so, to repair or replace the defective component prior to selling the vehicle to consumers. Carefree also recommends that OEMs and distributors notify potentially affected individual purchasers of camping trailers of the recall and instruct those owners to promptly schedule an appointment with their dealer so that the dealer can determine if the unit is affected, and if so, arrange for the service. Service consists of replacement of the affected cable shaft.

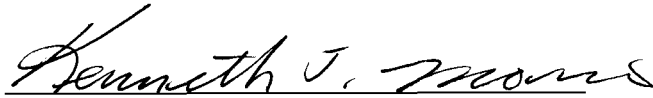
Carefree will fully reimburse OEMs, distributors, dealers and customers for the cost to repair or replace the FCT Winch. Carefree will provide all the parts necessary to repair affected FCT Winches at no charge to OEMs and dealers. Carefree will reimburse dealers for .5 hours of labor at the dealers’ posted shop rate for dealers who use Carefree’s recall warranty form. Carefree will make arrangements to have all OEM stock and yard inventory updated per the recall.

#### **9. Copies of all Notices, Bulletins, and other Communications that Relate Directly to the Defect**

As of the date of this notification, Carefree has submitted to NHTSA for approval a copy of its Notice to OEMs and distributors, along with proposed notices for OEMs and distributors to

send to dealers and owners of potentially affected FCTs. Carefree will provide the proposed notices to dealers and owners to OEMs to facilitate their prompt compliance with NHTSA notification requirements. Carefree will promptly provide those materials to OEMs upon approval by NHTSA.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding this matter.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kenneth J. Morris". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kenneth" being more prominent and the last name "Morris" following in a similar style.

Kenneth J. Morris, Product Manager  
Carefree of Colorado

Enclosures

Attachment 1: List of Manufacturers and Distributors

Attachment 2: Powerwinch User Manual

Attachment 3: Cable Shaft Replacement Instructions

Attachment 4: September 14, 2007, Initial Notice to FCT Winch OEM and  
Distributor Customers

**ATTACHMENT 1:**  
**LIST OF MANUFACTURERS AND DISTRIBUTORS**

**Carefree of Colorado  
Folding Camper Winch**

<b>Customer Listing</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Customer Listing</b>
Palomino RV (OEM)		Arrow Distributing (Dist.)
1047 East M86		11819 I Street
Colon MI 49040		Omaha NE 68137
269-432-3271		402-330-3322
Attn: Don Cope		Attn: Michelle Krueger
Hi-Lo Trailer Co 204801 (OEM)		Coast Distribution Systems (Dist.)
500 South Main ST		350 Woodview Avenue
Bellville OH 44813		Morgan Hill CA 95037
419-886-0066		408-782-6686
Attn: Jay		Attn: Rosemarie Worley
Forest River Inc. 106701 (OEM)		Viking Recreational Vehicles 119401 (OEM)
201 W Elm Street		580 W. Burr Oak Street
Millersburg IN 46543		Centerville MI 49032
219-642-2640		800-368-2829
Attn: Mark Kritzman Ext 106		Attn: Gar Warlick
Starcraft RV Inc. 127501 (OEM)		Rv's R Us 614601 (Dist.)
536 Michigan St		1425 Holland Street
Topeka IN 46571		Denver CO 80215
260-593-2579		303-232-4416
Attn: Joyce Skinner		Attn: Jerry Shepherd
Keller Marine 610001 (Distributor)		Carter Distributing (Dist.)
2712 Main St.		2839 South 1030 West
Port Trevorton PA 17864		Salt Lake City UT 84119
570-374-8169		801-977-0650
Lori Morrow ext 217		Attn: Steve Error
High Definition RV 123301 (Dist)		NTP (Dist.)
DBA Made In The Shade		27150 Kinsman Rd
1530 North Hobson Suite 102		Wilsonville OR 97070
Gilbert AZ 85233		503-570-0171
480-926-2720		Attn: Tricia Jenner
Chris Mosley		
Stag Parkway (Dist)		Bell Ind (Dist.)
7095 Tradewater Pkwy		580 Yankee Doodle Rd Ste 1200
Atlanta GA 30336		Eagan MN 55121
404-349-7800		651-450-9020
Kenny Sikes		Attn: Steve Christenson

**ATTACHMENT 2:**  
**POWERWINCH USER MANUAL**



## Powerwinch Model P55000 Folding Camper Winch

### Description

The Powerwinch Folding Camper Winch is used to raise and lower the tops of folding campers. When properly set, the winch will automatically stop operation when the camper top is fully extended and retracted.

### Unpacking

When unpacking, inspect carefully for any damage that may have occurred during transit. Make sure any loose fittings, bolts, etc., are tightened before putting unit into service.

## **General Safety Information**

*Throughout this manual potential safety hazards will be noted with the following terms. Please read and understand these terms before operating the product.*

### **⚠ DANGER**

Danger means a hazard that will cause death or serious injury if the warning is ignored.

### **⚠ WARNING**

Warning means a hazard that could cause death or serious injury if the warning is ignored.

### **⚠ CAUTION**

Caution means a hazard that may cause minor or moderate injury if the warning is ignored. It also may mean a hazard that will only cause damage to property

### **⚠ DANGER**

1. ALWAYS USE A BRACE TO SUPPORT THE FOLDING CAMPER TOP WHEN MAKING ADJUSTMENTS TO THE CAMPER TOP AND WHILE THE CAMPER TOP IS RAISED.
2. KEEP ALL OBJECTS, PEOPLE, AND ANIMALS AWAY FROM CAMPER AND CAMPER TOP WHILE THE WINCH IS IN OPERATION.
3. DISCONNECT CAMPER FROM TOWING VEHICLE BEFORE RAISING OR LOWERING CAMPER TOP.
4. DO NOT EXTEND CAMPER TOP BEYOND VISUAL HEIGHT INDICATORS ON CAMPER
5. THIS WINCH IS EQUIPPED A FUSE ATTACHED TO THE RED WIRE COMING FROM THE MOTOR. IF THIS FUSE BLOWS DURING OPERATION, DISCONTINUE WINCH USE AND CONTACT POWERWINCH IMMEDIATELY AT 800-243-3097.

### **⚠ WARNING**

1. CAMPER MUST BE ON HARD, LEVEL SURFACE BEFORE RAISING TOP.
2. CAMPER MUST BE LEVELED BEFORE EXTENDING OR RETRACTING TOP.
3. MAKE SURE LATCHES USED TO SECURE CAMPER TOP WHILE TRAVELLING ARE RELEASED BEFORE OPERATING WINCH

### **⚠ CAUTION**

1. THE WINCH HAS A 5 MINUTE DUTY CYCLE. WAIT AT LEAST 5 MINUTES BETWEEN EACH LIFTING CYCLE. RUNNING WINCH CONTINUOUSLY WILL DAMAGE THE MOTOR AND GEARS AND VOID YOUR WARRANTY.
2. NEVER LIFT THE CAMPER TOP IF THERE IS CARGO SUCH AS LUGGAGE OR BICYCLES ON THE CAMPER TOP. THIS EXTRA CARGO MAY OVERLOAD THE WINCH AND CAUSE DAMAGE TO THE WINCH THAT MAY VOID YOUR WARRANTY.

## **Powerwinch Model P55000 Folding Camper Winch**

### **Installation, Operation And Adjustment of Folding Camper Winch**

#### **⚠ DANGER**

#### **IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION BELOW:**

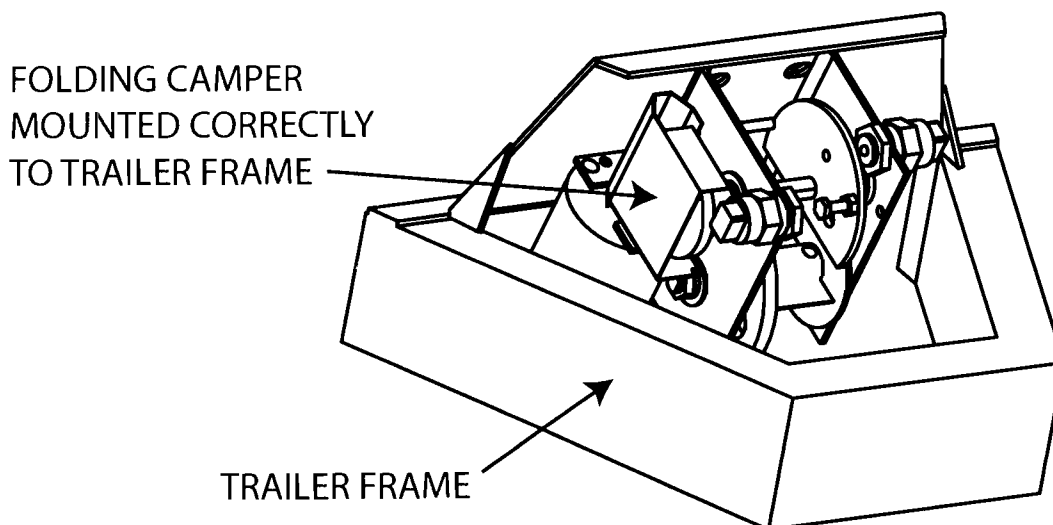
1. THIS WINCH IS EQUIPPED WITH A FUSE AND AUTOMATIC RESETTABLE CIRCUIT BREAKERS TO PROTECT THE WINCH GEAR TRAIN IN THE EVENT OF AN OVERLOAD.
2. IF THE FUSE IS EVER BLOWN DURING OPERATION, CEASE USE OF WINCH AND CONTACT POWERWINCH IMMEDIATELY AT 800-243-3097. A BLOWN FUSE IS AN INDICATION THE WINCH WAS OVERLOADED AND COULD HAVE SUSTAINED DAMAGE.
3. ONLY BYPASS A BLOWN FUSE IN ORDER TO RETRACT THE CAMPER TOP SO THE WINCH CAN BE SERVICED. NEVER CONTINUE TO USE THE WINCH WITH THE FUSE BYPASSED.
4. ONLY USE GENUINE POWERWINCH REPLACEMENT FUSES. THESE FUSES HAVE BEEN SPECIFICALLY SIZED TO ALLOW THE WINCH TO OPERATE RELIABLY AND SAFELY. USE OF ANY OTHER FUSE COULD RESULT IN DAMAGE TO THE WINCH AND CAMPER TOP.

### ***WINCH INSTALLATION AND ADJUSTMENT***

If a manual winch is not installed proceed to step 6. Use Figure 15 to familiarize yourself with winch components that are used to adjust camper top travel.

1. Make sure camper is on a hard level surface.
2. Place wheel chocks on trailer wheels to prevent the camper from moving.
3. Make sure camper top is fully retracted and there is no tension on the manual winch cable.
4. Remove the winch cable from the winch.
5. Remove the manual trailer winch by removing the three nuts, bolts and washers securing the winch to the trailer. DO NOT DISCARD THESE FASTENERS. THEY ARE NEEDED TO ATTACH THE FOLDING CAMPER WINCH TO THE TRAILER.
6. Place electric winch on trailer as shown in Figure 1. Make sure winch is centered and reinstall three bolts, washers and nuts. Torque a nuts to a minimum of 20 ft.lbs.

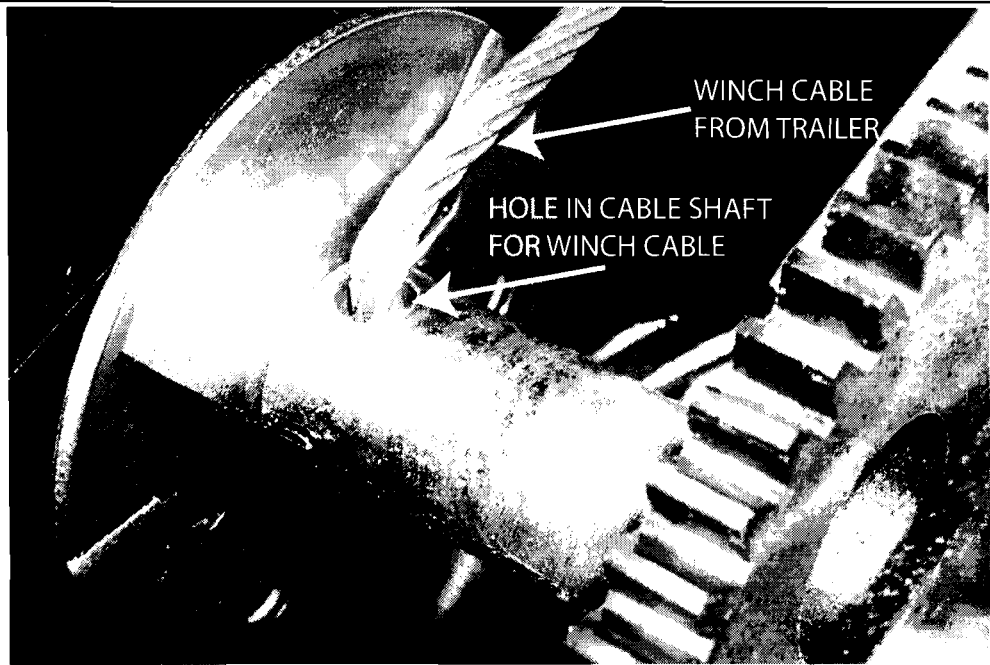
Figure 1. Correct mounting of Folding Camper Winch on Frame Trailer Frame



## Winch Installation Continued

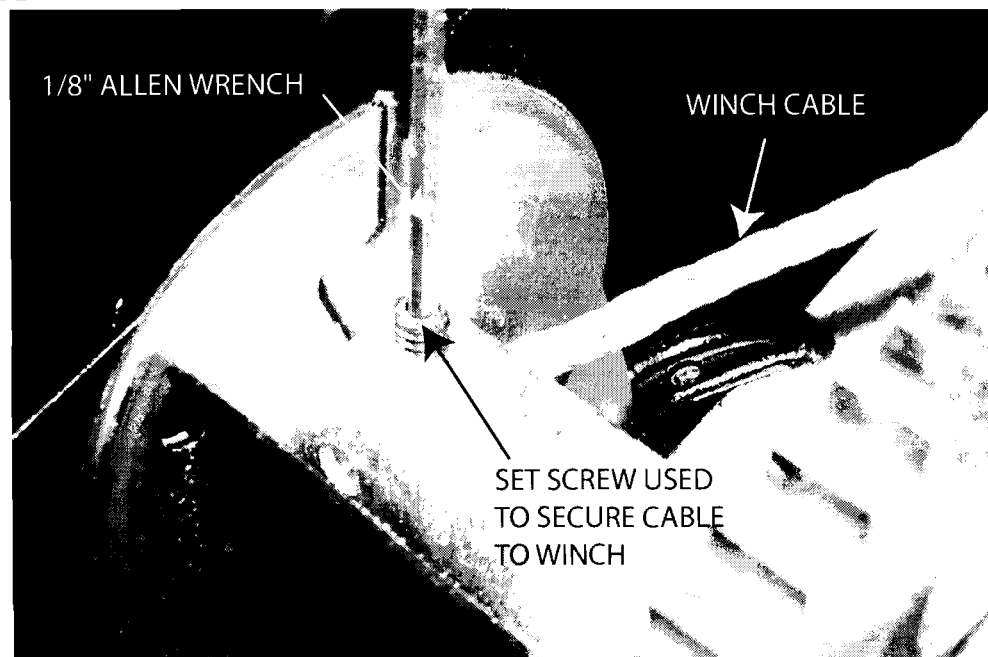
7. Locate the battery that is going to be used to power the winch. Run the wiring from the winch to the battery making sure the wiring is clear of any moving parts of the winch, including the gears.
8. Secure the wiring to the trailer frame using wire ties.
9. Connect the red wire with the circuit breaker on the end to the positive terminal of the battery.
10. Connect the black wire to the negative terminal of the battery.
11. Use the up and down switch to move the cable shaft so the holes for the cable are accessible
12. Place the winch cable in the hole shown in the cable shaft as shown in Figure 3.

Figure 3. Assembly of winch cable to winch



13. Using the up and down switch, move the cable shaft so the set screw that secures the cable is accessible. Tighten using an 1/8" Allen wrench as shown in Figure 4.

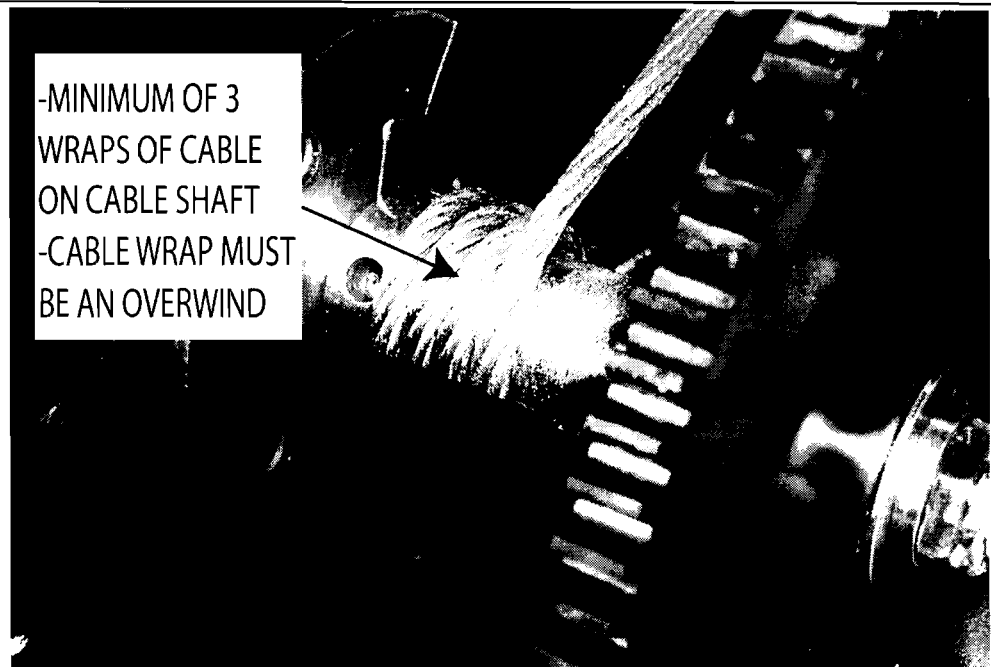
Figure 4. Tighten set screw used to secure cable to winch with a 1/8" Allen wrench.



## Winch Installation Continued

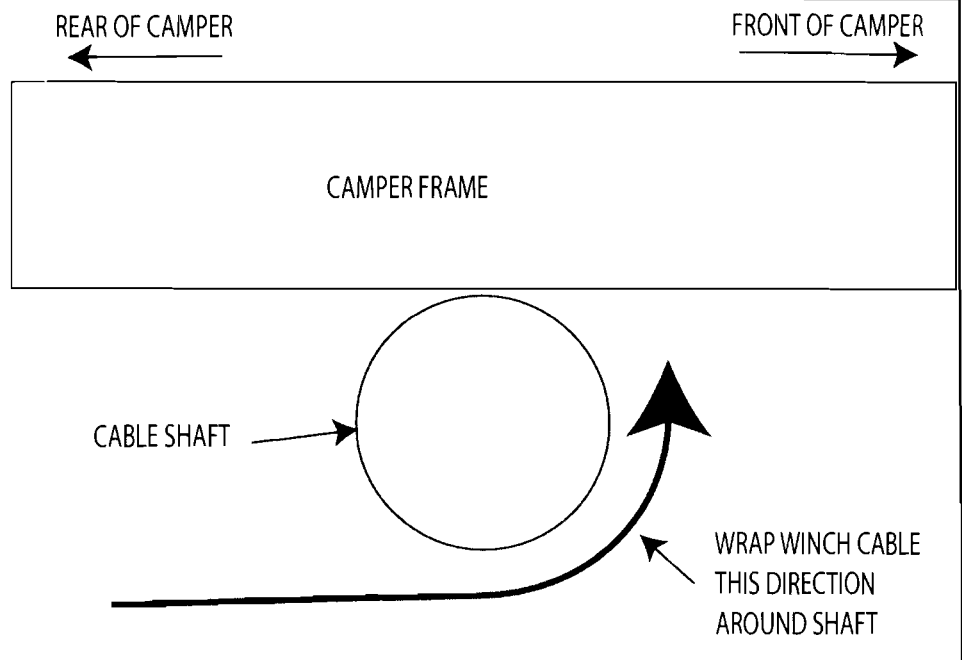
14. Begin to wind cable into the winch by engaging the switch in the up position **Up is engaging the switch in the position marked "A" on the switch. See Figure 15 for more detail about switch.**
15. Wind three full wraps of cable on the cable shaft as shown in Figure 5.

Figure 5. Wind three wraps of cable on the cable shaft. Make sure the wrap is smooth and even.



16. The cable must be wound as an overwind on the cable shaft. See Figure 6.

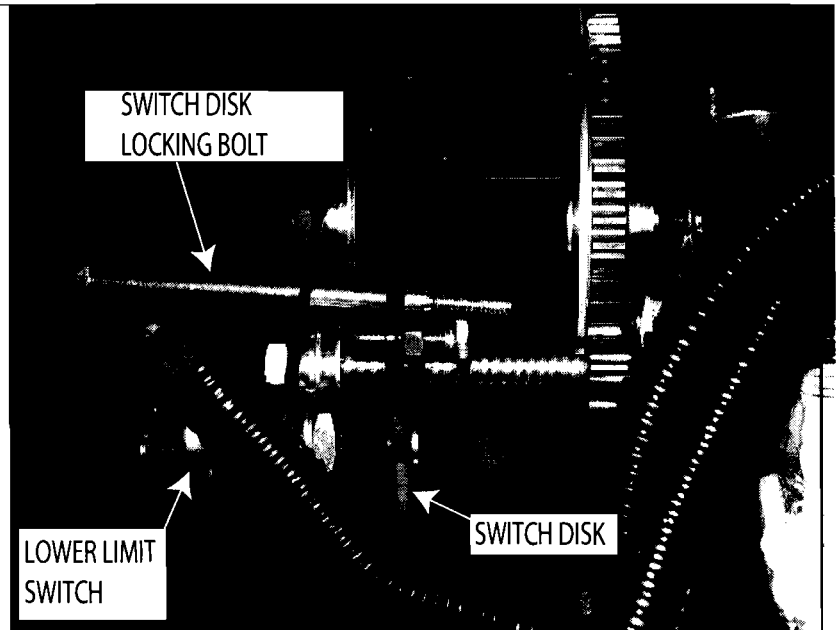
Figure 6. Wind the cable over the shaft as shown. Winding the cable the wrong way will damage winch and may void warranty.



## Winch Installation Continued

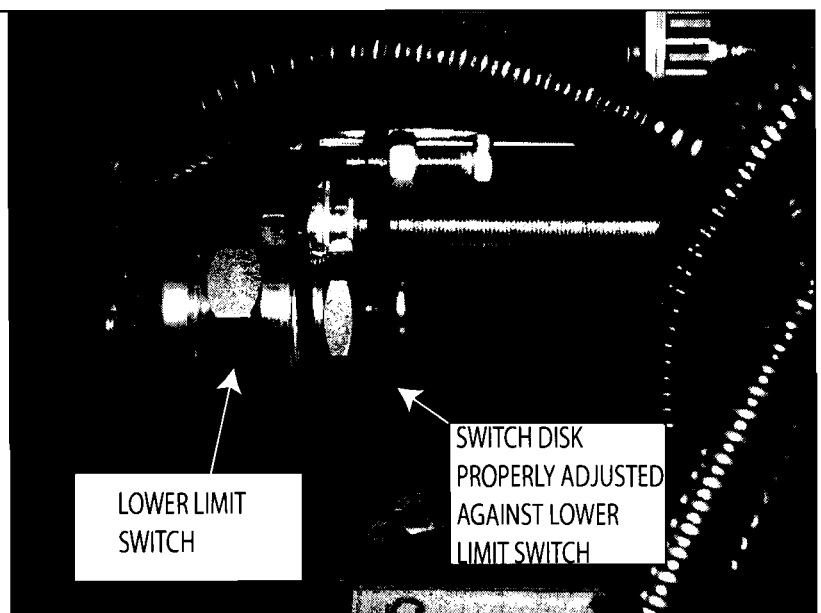
17. It may take more than three wraps of cable to take all of the slack out of the cable. **DO NOT PROCEED TO THE NEXT STEP UNTIL THERE IS A MINIMUM OF THREE WRAPS OF CABLE ON THE CABLE SHAFT AND ALL OF THE SLACK IS OUT OF THE CABLE.**
18. Once all the slack is out of the cable the lower limit can be set. The lower limit turns the winch off once the camper top is all the way down.
19. Refer to Figures 7 and 8. Remove the switch disk locking bolt out of the winch by removing nut at end of bolt. With the bolt out, the disk can be spun back toward the lower limit switch.

Figure 7. Remove switch disk locking bolt from winch. Spin switch disk toward lower limit switch.



20. Spin switch disk back until it contacts the lower limit switch as shown in Figure 8.

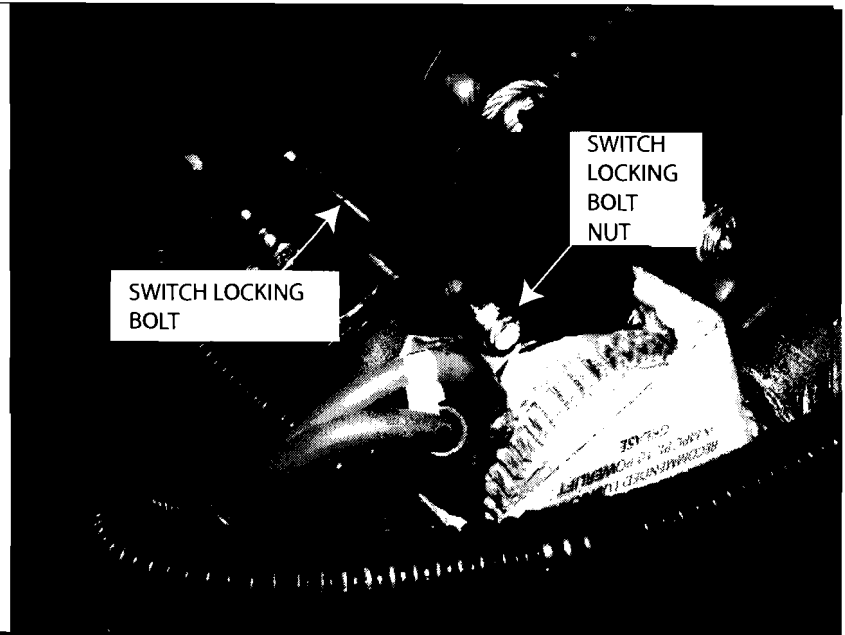
Figure 8. Spin switch disk until it engages the lower limit switch.



## Winch Installation Continued

21. Replace Switch Disk Locking Bolt and secure with nut. See Figure 9.

Figure 9. Replace Switch Disk locking bolt and screw. This bolt must be re-placed before raising camper top.



22. The camper top can now be raised.

**DANGER: ALWAYS USE A BRACE TO SUPPORT FOLDING CAMPER TOP WHEN MAKING ADJUSTMENTS TO THE WINCH.**

**WARNING: WAIT 5 MINUTES BETWEEN EACH RAISE OR LOWER CYCLE OF CAMPER TOP. RUNNING WINCH CONTINUOUSLY WILL DAMAGE MOTOR AND GEARS AND COULD VOID YOUR WARRANTY.**

***Warning: Camper must be on a hard level surface.***

***Danger: Keep all objects away from camper and camper top while winch is in operation.***

***Danger: Disconnect camper from towing vehicle before raising or lowering camper top.***

***Warning: Camper must be leveled before extending or retracting top.***

***Warning: All latches securing camper top to camper must be released before operating winch.***

***Danger: Do not extend camper top beyond visual height indicators on camper.***

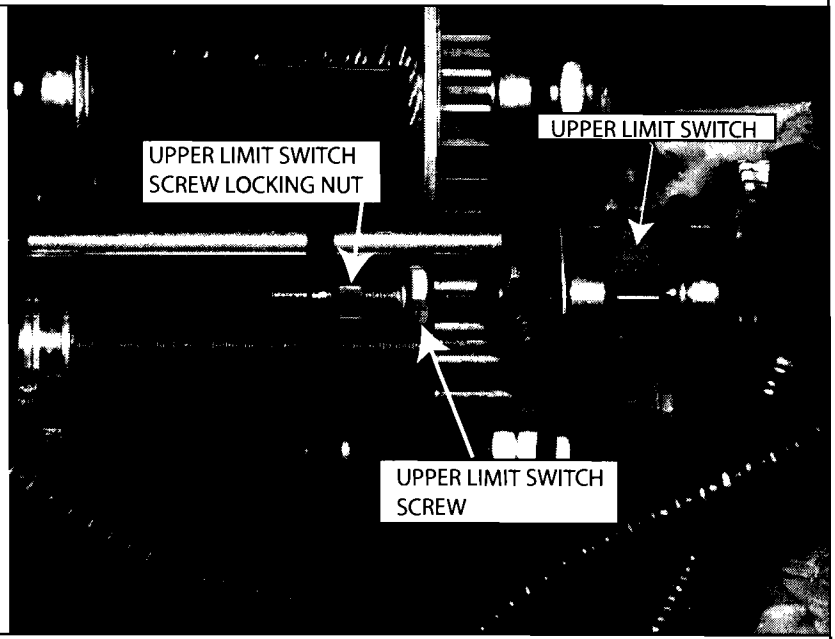
23. Engage the control switch in the up position and begin to raise the camper top.

24. Raise camper top until visual indicator, normally a cord between the top of the camper and the body of the camper, is taut or the winch stops.

**25. If the winch stops before the cord is taut, go to step 29. If the cord is taut before the winch stops go to step 26.**

26. If the cord is taut before the winch has stopped, the upper limit switch was not engaged to turn the winch motor off. This is the situation shown in Figure 10.

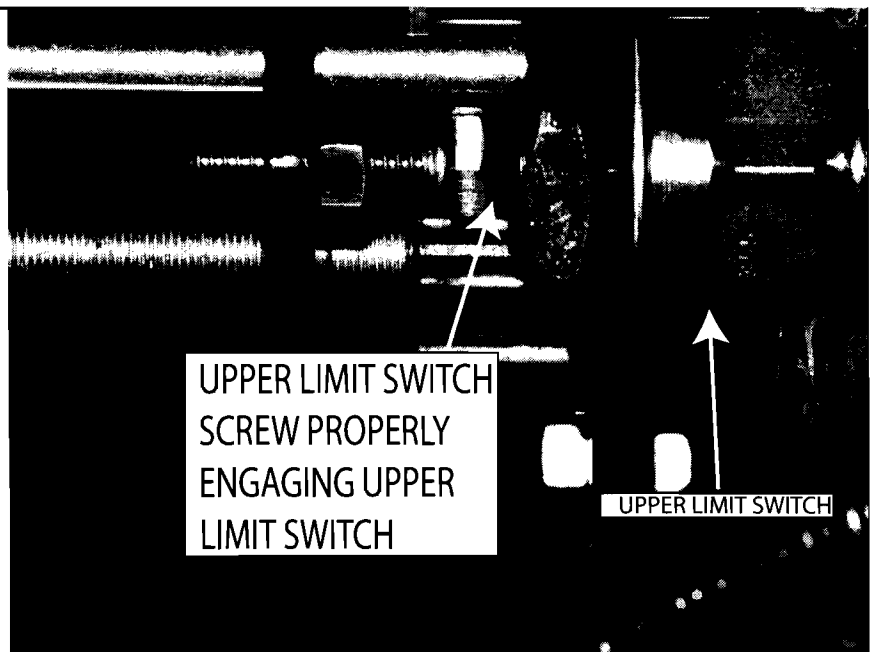
Figure 10. If the camper top did not stop before the cord is taut, the upper limit switch was not engaged. To correct, loosen upper limit switch locking nut and turn upper limit switch screw until switch is engaged. Tighten upper limit switch locking nut to make sure upper limit screw stays in place.



27. To engage the upper limit switch, loosen upper limit switch locking nut and turn upper limit switch screw until switch is engaged. Tighten upper limit switch locking nut to make sure upper limit screw stays in place. Engage the switch in the up position and see if the cord is now taut.

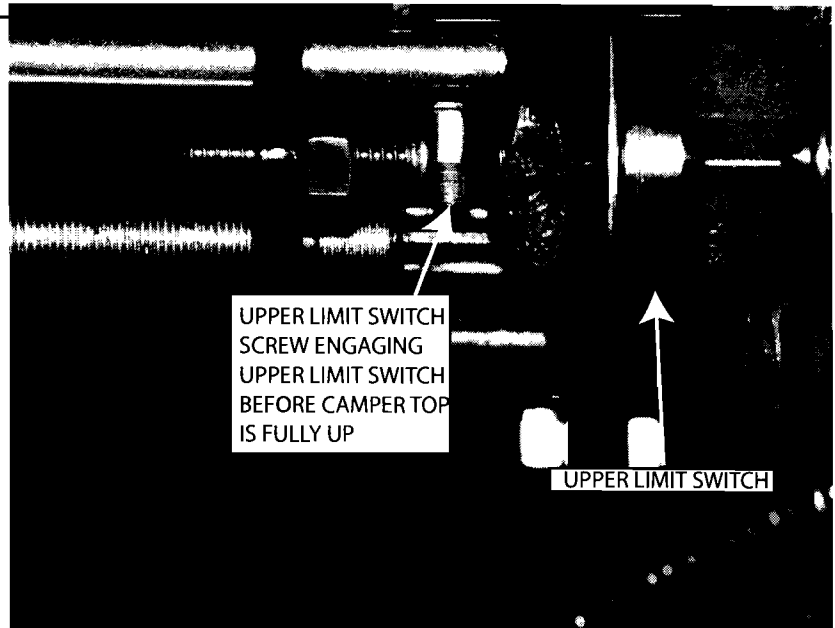
28. It may take a few adjustments to get the screw properly set. The proper setting is shown in Figure 11.

Figure 11. This figure shows a properly adjusted upper limit switch screw. The screw should engage the switch and turn the winch off just as the cord becomes taut. Make sure the upper limit switch locking nut is tightened to secure the upper limit switch screw.



29. If the winch shuts off before the cord is taut, the upper limit switch has been engaged before the top was all the way up. Figure 12 shows this situation.

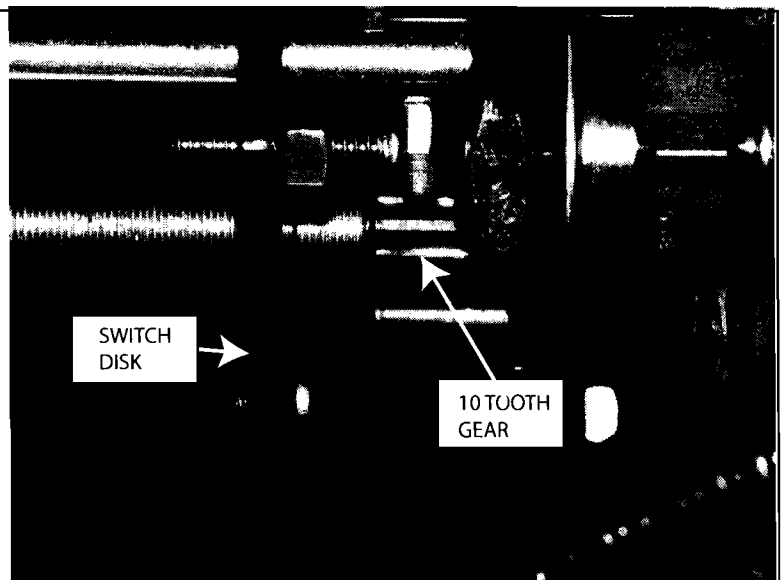
Figure 12. The upper limit switch has been engaged before the camper top is fully raised.



30. For the winch to lift the top higher the upper limit switch screw must be turned into the switch disk. BEFORE MAKING ANY ADJUSTMENT READ WARNING BELOW

***DANGER: IMPROPER ADJUSTMENT OF THE UPPER LIMIT SWITCH SCREW CAN CAUSE THE SWITCH DISK TO ENGAGE THE 10 TOOTH AND SEVERELY DAMAGE THE WINCH AND VOID YOUR WARRANTY. SEE FIGURE 13.***

Figure 13. NEVER ALLOW THE SWITCH DISK TO ENGAGE THE 10 TOOTH GEAR. ALLOW A GAP OF AT LEAST 1/8". FAILURE TO DO SO WILL DAMAGE THE WINCH AND VOID YOUR WARRANTY.



31. Loosen the upper limit switch locking nut and turn upper limit screw into the switch disk so it is no longer touching the limit switch. Make sure to tighten the upper limit screw locking nut after the adjustment is made. Engage the switch in the up position and check if the camper top is now to the correct height.

32. It may take a few adjustments to get the screw properly set. The proper setting is shown in Figure 11.

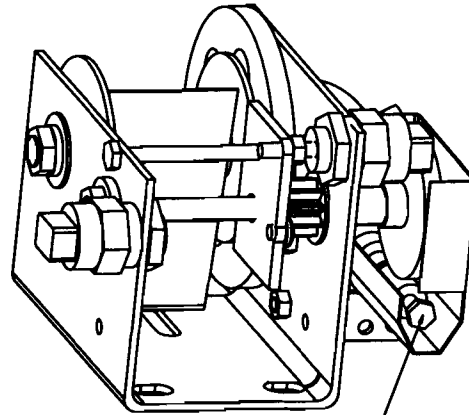


## Manual Operation

In the case of a power failure, the winch can be raised and lowered manually. Refer to Figure 14.

1. Locate the manual drive bolt. It is located on the end of the winch motor shaft.
2. Place a 7/16" socket over the bolt head.
3. Turn the bolt clockwise to raise the top and counter clockwise to lower the top.

Figure 14. The winch can be operated manually by attaching a 7/16" socket to the bolt at the end of the motor. Turn clockwise to raise top and counter-clockwise to lower top



USE A 7/16" SOCKET  
ON THIS BOLT AND  
TURN TO OPERATE  
WINCH MANUALLY

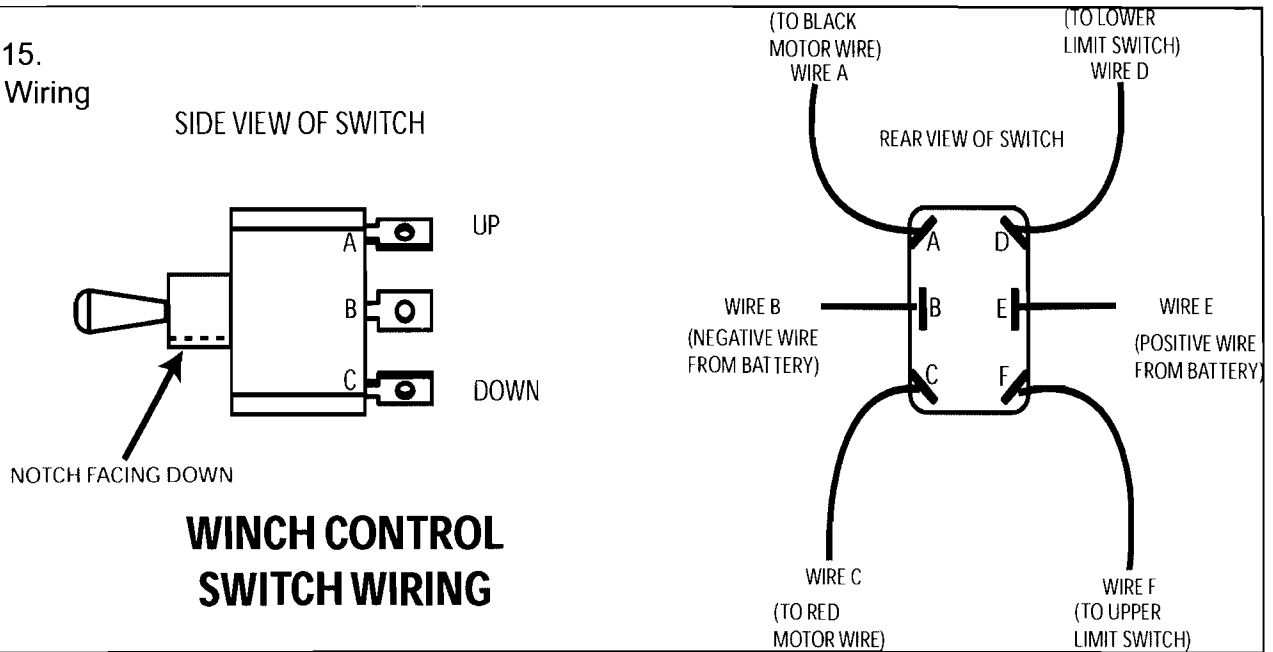
## Winch Maintenance

1. Frequently inspect cable. Look for kinks, cuts, or breaks in the cable. Immediately replace cable if any kinks, cuts or breaks are found in the cable.
2. Lubricate the cable once per year with 30 weight motor oil.
3. Lubricate the worm gear and worm at the beginning of every camping season or every three months if the camper is used once per month. Use only extreme pressure lithium complex grease with a thickness rating of NLGI #2. MPC PL10 Power Lift Grease™ is the recommended grease for lubricating these gears.
4. Pack the gear cover full of grease making sure there is grease on all sides of the gear cover.
5. Under heavy use there may be some minor smoking of the gears. Heavy gear smoke or loud winch vibration may be an indication of a serious problem that should be examined by a trained service technician.
6. Check all electrical wiring for cuts or breaks every six months. Replace any broken or cut wires.
7. Check all electrical connections for corrosion every six months. Clean any corrosion that is found on electrical connections.

## Winch Wiring

A wiring diagram is shown in Figure 15. The switch terminals are labeled as well as all switch connections. If winch wiring is disconnected, make sure to follow this diagram to rewire winch correctly.

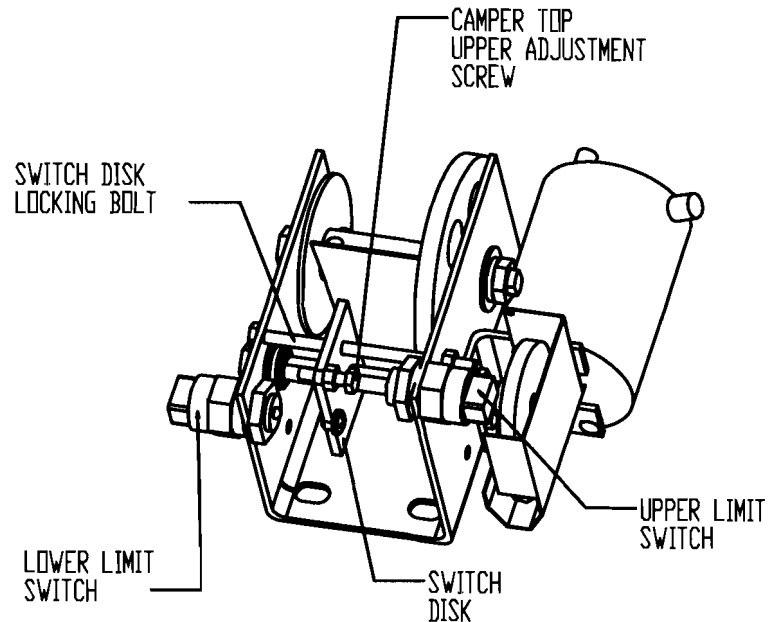
Figure 15.  
Switch Wiring



## Folding Camper Winch Troubleshooting

Problem	Solution
Winch Does Not Operate	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Check wiring. Make sure all wiring connections are secure.</li> <li>2. Check battery. Make sure battery is fully charged.</li> <li>3. Check circuit breaker. Make sure all connections to circuit breaker are secure.</li> <li>4. Check fuse in wiring harness. The fuse is located at the end of the red wire coming out of the motor. If fuse is blown, contact Powerwinch at 800-243-3097 for assistance before using winch again. See warnings on page 2 of manual.</li> </ol>
Winch Does Not Operate In Proper Direction	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Compare winch wiring to wiring diagram (Figure 15) and make any corrections.</li> <li>2. Make sure positive lead (wire E) is connected to the positive terminal on the battery.</li> </ol>
Camper Top Over or Under Extends	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Adjust winch by following instructions for adjusting upper and lower limit switches (Steps 18-32)</li> </ol>

Figure 16.  
Components used  
to adjust folding  
camper winch



#### Limited Warranty

A. This Limited Warranty is given by the Powerwinch Division of the Scott Fetzer Company (the "Company") to the original purchaser (the "Purchaser") of a Powerwinch Product (the "Product") specified in this manual. This Limited Warranty is not transferable to any other party.

B. Responsibilities of the Company under this Limited Warranty:

1. Repair or replace (at the discretion of the Company) any part or parts of the Product found by the Company to be defective within a three (3) years period from the date of purchase.
2. The Company will pay the transportation charge for shipment back to the Purchaser of any Product received for legitimate Warranty repair.

C. Responsibilities of the Purchaser under this Limited Warranty:

1. Complete (fully and accurately) and return to the Company, the Warranty card included in the box. Otherwise, Purchaser will have to show dated proof of purchase to qualify for service under the provisions of the Limited Warranty.
2. Promptly notify the Seller or the Company of any claim hereunder.
3. At the Option of the Company, return the Product to the Company for inspection. Authorization must be given prior to any Product return. Call the Company at (800)-243-3097 or write the Company at 2145 West 6th Ave, Broomfield, CO, 80020 for authorization and complete instructions on how to return the Product directly to the Company.
4. Use reasonable care in maintenance, operation, use and storage of the Product in accordance with the instructions contained in the Owner's Manual.
5. Have Warranty work performed by a dealer or representative approved by the Company.
6. Except as noted in B.2., transportation charges are the responsibility of the Purchaser.

D. This Limited Warranty covers:

1. Defects in workmanship or materials.
2. Any part or parts of the Product sold or manufactured by the Company.

E. This Limited Warranty does not cover:

1. Any failure that results from improper installation of the Product.
2. Any failure that results from accident, Purchaser's abuse, neglect, modification, improper maintenance, or failure to operate and use the Product in accordance with the instructions provided in the Owner's Manual supplied with the Product.

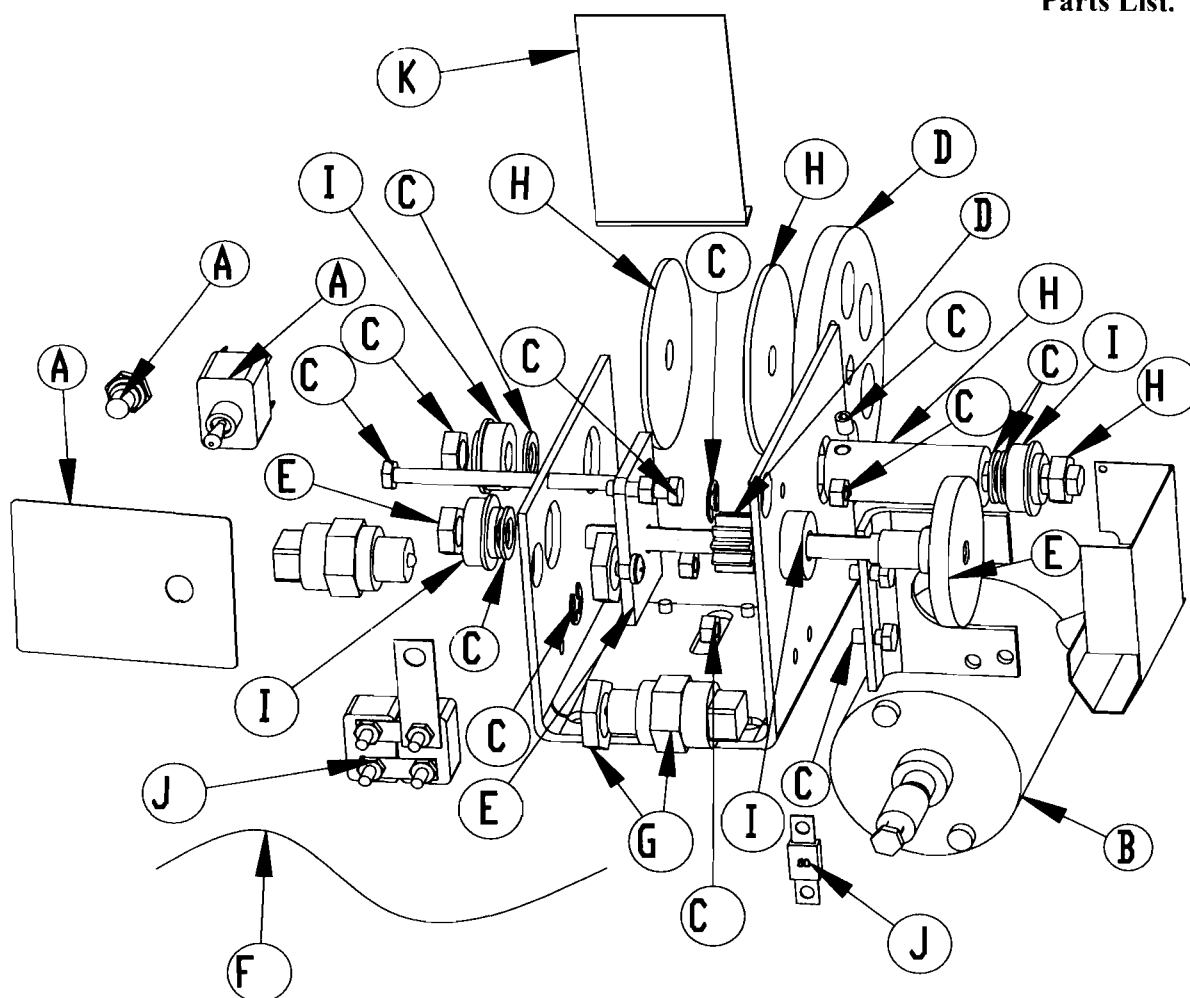
F. There is no other express warranty. Implied warranties, including those of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose, are limited to one (1) year from date of purchase. This is the exclusive remedy and any liability for any and all incidental or consequential damages or expenses whatsoever is excluded.

Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts, or do not allow exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, the above limitations may not apply to you. This Limited Warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

# Powerwinch®

FOR PARTS AND SERVICE CALL 1-800-243-3097

**Powerwinch Model P55000**  
**Folding Camper Winch**  
**Parts List.**



Item	Part Number	Kit Description
A	R001491	CONTROL SWITCH KIT
B	R001492	MOTOR KIT
C	P30103*	FASTENER KIT*
D	R001493	GEAR KIT
E	R001494	WORM GEAR KIT
F	P30029	WIRING HARNESS
G	P30028	LIMIT SWITCH KIT
H	R001495	CABLE SHAFT
I	R001496	BEARING KIT
J	R001497	FUSE AND CIRCUIT BREAKER KIT
K	R001498	LEVELWIND PLATE KIT

\*P30103 IS A FASTENER KIT THAT CONTAINS ALL FASTENERS  
 REQUIRED TO REPAIR ONE COMPLETE WINCH.

**ATTACHMENT 3:**  
**CABLE SHAFT REPLACEMENT INSTRUCTIONS**

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<b>Models:</b>	Powerwinch Model P55000 Folding Camper Winch
<b>Serial Number:</b>	WFCO 70001933 thru WFCO 70009000 The serial number is located on the frame opposite the motor.
<b>Description:</b>	The cable shaft may fail during operation when the unit experiences a stall condition. A stall condition occurs when the motor continues running as the cable and shaft are immobilized. This condition could occur when lifting the top before releasing the travel locks or when the limit switches are not properly set (i.e. the winch continues to run after the top is fully raised).

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**⚠WARNING**

**FAILURE TO REPLACE THE SHAFT ON APPLICABLE UNITS COULD RESULT IN A CONDITION THAT IS POTENTIALLY HARMFUL TO PERSONS AND PROPERTY!**

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**Summary of Work:** This procedure involves removing the existing shaft and installing the new shaft.

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**CHECKING THE APPLICABILITY**

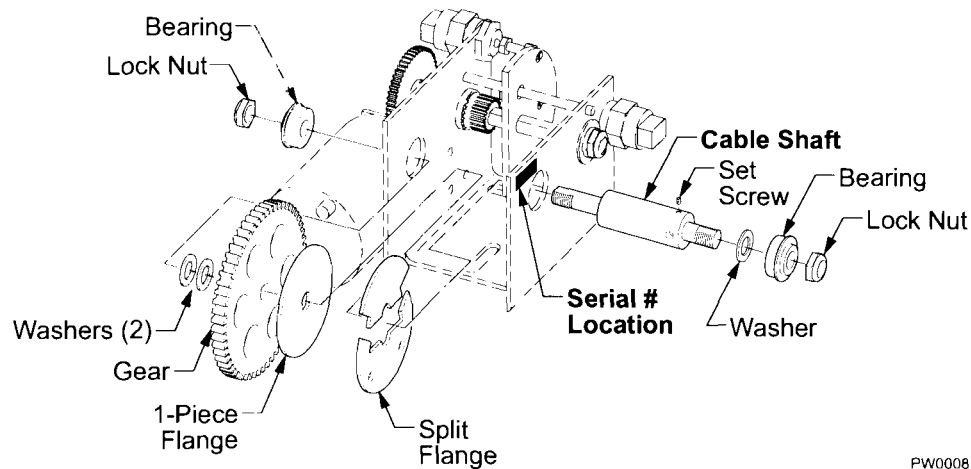
1. Remove the upper cover from the frame to expose the winch.  
**NOTE: On some units with an optional second gas tank, it will be necessary to disconnect the battery and remove the battery and case to access the winch cover.**
2. Locate the serial number tag located on the frame opposite the motor (refer to the illustration on the next page).
3. If the serial number is in the range above, check the end of the cable shafts for a white dot on one end of the shaft on the motor side (there may be a white dot on the other end also).
4. If the serial number is NOT within the range above or if there is a white dot on the end of the shaft, no further action is required. Replace the covers previously removed.
5. If the serial number falls within the range above AND there is no white dot on the end of the shaft, proceed with "Replacing the Cable Shaft".

**REPLACING THE CABLE SHAFT**

The following instructions are for replacing the cable shaft. For instruction purposes LH or left refers to the motor side; RH or right refers to the side opposite the motor.

*(Refer to the illustration on the next page)*

1. Lower the top completely.
2. Some units may have plate or cover under the frame and winch. Remove the plate and set aside.
3. Remove the 3 attaching bolts that attach the winch to the mounting plate and lower the winch to the ground.
4. Disconnect the cable from the cable shaft.
  - If previously disconnected, reconnect the power source (battery).
  - Using the UP/DOWN switch, rotate the cable shaft to unwind the cable and expose the Allen screw.
  - Remove the Allen screw (requires a 1/8" Allen wrench).
  - Remove the cable from the shaft.
5. Disconnect power to the winch.
6. Brace the shaft and remove the right lock nut from the shaft and set aside.
7. Remove the RH bearing from the case and set aside.
8. Remove the RH washer and the split drum flange halves and set aside.
9. Loosen and remove the lock nut on the LH side while pulling the shaft out of the RH side of the case.
10. Set aside the LH drum flange, gear and washers.



PW0008

11. Insert the new shaft through the right side of the case.
12. Slide the one-piece drum flange, gear and washers (2) onto the left end of the shaft.
13. While sliding the left end of the shaft into the left bearing, start the lock nut onto the end of the shaft. Tighten the nut, allowing the shaft to pull through the bearing until the nut is snug. The nut should be tightened enough to prevent side to side movement but not so tight that the shaft cannot rotate easily in the bearing.
14. Assemble the split drum flange around the right side of the shaft and hold in place.
15. Slide a washer (1) onto the shaft.
16. Slide the RH bearing onto the shaft and into the hole of the case.
17. Secure the shaft with the second lock nut on the right end. Tighten the nut until snug; if a torque wrench is available, torque to 90 in-lbs. If a torque wrench is not available, tighten until snug as described in step 13.
18. For winches that are already installed, follow the directions in the owner's manual (p/n P30104) for the following:
  - Restore power to the winch.
  - Attach the cable to the shaft.
  - Reattach the winch to the mounting plate.
  - Test and set the limit switches as required.
19. Install any covers previously removed.

### WARRANTY INFORMATION

Order replacement parts and file warranty claims through the standard Powerwinch warranty procedure.

Replacement part number for Cable Shaft Kit: R001522.

Labor Allowance: .5 hours

**ATTACHMENT 4:**  
**SEPTEMBER 14, 2007, INITIAL NOTICE TO**  
**FCT WINCH OEM AND DISTRIBUTOR CUSTOMERS**



## IMPORTANT SAFETY RECALL NOTICE

September 14, 2007

To: All Carefree Folding Camping Trailer (FCT) Winch OEM and Distributor Customers

Subject: Voluntary Safety Recall (Carefree FCT Winch)

Carefree of Colorado has determined that a potential defect which relates to safety of camper winches may exist in Folding Camping Trailers equipped with Carefree of Colorado FCT lift mechanism winches that were manufactured between February 2007 and August of 2007.

We have reported this issue to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission and to the National Highway Transportation Administration and will work with them on a procedure for notifying customers and recording completion of recall activities. We will notify you as soon as possible with information you can provide to your customers.

Until such time that these procedures are approved, Carefree, with your help, will attempt to identify, isolate and repair/replace as many of the units as possible. These repair/replacement units will be included in the overall recall quantities.

According to our records, involved Models have been shipped and invoiced to your company.

**Problem:** An incorrect material was used in the manufacture of cable shafts on some production units. Under certain circumstances while the top is being lifted, if the winch is placed into a stall condition, the cable shaft may break prior to the fuse or circuit breaker tripping. If the cable shaft breaks, the FCT top will free-fall into the lowered position. A stall condition can occur by: (1) improper setting of the winch limit switch, (2) seizure of the FCT where the winch is activated to raise the FCT top without releasing the top locking latches, or (3) any other mechanical binding that may restrict the top from being raised while the winch is activated.

**Solution:** Upon identification and isolation of the affected product, the cable shaft will be replaced.

Until the unit(s) is serviced, please ensure the following:

- no one should ever be permitted inside the trailer until it is raised and locked,
- keep hands and people clear of the top as it is being raised,
- don't cycle the winch up past the fully raised position of the FCT top

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION ON THIS VOLUNTARY RECALL. WE APOLOGIZE FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE, BUT NOTHING IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE SAFETY AND SATISFACTION OF OUR CUSTOMERS.