

FIRST LOOK

ITP TUNDRA CROSS TIRE

A spiked ATV tire

By the Staff of Dirt Wheels

□ While the lakes and rivers up North are not frozen over yet, you may still be planning your first big winter outing. Whether it's a hunting trip, a day of ice fishing or just enjoying the frozen earth on a trail ride, having the right tire is a key component for success.

This year, ITP is introducing the first production ice tire built specifically for ATVs and UTVs. Before now, you had to retrofit a set of automobile ice tires and car wheels if you wanted the added traction from an ice spike.

ITP's TundraCross has the same knobby pattern and footprint as their popular TerraCross tire. It's built with a medium-sized lug with an intertwined, sideways, V-shaped pattern encompassing the footprint and a bit of the sidewall.

The spike system is similar to what you might see in a passenger car or light truck tire. Each lug has four pre-drilled or molded spike placement holes ready for the spike installation. Each spike is made out of carbide-tipped steel and starts out at 1/2-inches in length and is about 3/16-inches round. Almost 100 spikes are required for each tire. Customers cannot install the spikes themselves. ITP does all of the dirty work for you.

When and if the spikes do wear down, the old ones cannot be removed with a screwdriver and replaced.

Rocky Custstorth has been developing the TundraCross tires for ITP for the past two winters. Rocky tells us "traction is excellent," and the best part about having spiked tires is that his riding season just became year-round.

ITP claims that as each spike wears down, so will the rubber, exposing more of the stud so traction does not go away.



TundraCross tires are available in 25x9-12 and 25x10-12 sizes and retail for \$131 and \$135 each. The tires in this feature were mounted on ITP's

SS312 12x7 wheels at \$93 each. Contact ITP at (951) 390-1905, or to see their entire catalog, log on to www.itptires.com. □

