



For information, contact: (949) 727-3727 ext. 3091

## WHAT TO WEAR WHEN OPERATING AN ATV The Well-Dressed ATV Rider

**Irvine, Calif.** – Personal safety, comfort, and the use of appropriate gear are essential when riding an all terrain vehicle (ATV). Proper riding gear includes:

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Approved helmet</b>           | <i>Helmets should have stickers on the inside or outside confirming compliance with the standards from the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) or Snell</i> |
| <b>Eye protection</b>            | <i>Protective goggles or face shield</i>  |
| <b>Gloves</b>                    | <i>Off-road style is best</i>   |
| <b>Long-sleeved shirt/jacket</b> | <i>Off-road jersey; shoulder pads/chest protector are encouraged</i>  |
| <b>Over-the-ankle boots</b>      | <i>Off-road style, over-the-ankle ATV boots offer the best protection</i>   |

### **Approved Helmet**

In most cases, the single most important piece of protective gear is a helmet. While color, design and price may influence the helmet purchasing decision, protection should be the first consideration. The full-faced helmet provides the most protection since it covers more of the face. For a helmet to offer the most protection possible it must fit properly. A helmet should fit snugly but comfortably, and be securely fastened.

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### **The Right Helmet for Youths**

Athletic headgear such as hockey, football or skateboard helmets are not acceptable for ATV riding. They do not have adequate energy management qualities for use while operating a motorized vehicle. As with any helmet, a child's helmet must fit properly to be effective. Do not use an adult-sized helmet that is too large for a youngster. Check with an ATV dealer.

### **Seasonal Gear**

Riding an ATV during the winter requires extra body protection – keeping dry and warm is essential. Clothing should be windproof and water-repellent. It should be snug but loose enough to permit freedom of movement and good blood circulation.

The All-Terrain Vehicle Safety Institute<sup>®</sup> (ASI), a not-for-profit division of the Specialty Vehicle Institute of America<sup>®</sup> (SVIA), was formed in 1988 to implement an expanded national program of all-terrain vehicle (ATV) safety education and awareness. ASI's primary goal is to promote the safe and responsible use of ATVs, thereby reducing accidents and injuries that may result from improper ATV operation by the rider.

The Specialty Vehicle Institute of America is an information source about the all-terrain vehicle industry. SVIA provides information on ATV standards as well as promoting model state legislation on ATV riding. It also serves as a liaison with state and federal agencies on ATV training and their influence upon the environment. Membership is open to all corporations regularly engaged in the business of manufacturing, importing or wholesale distribution of ATVs in the United States. SVIA was formed in 1983 as a national not-for-profit trade association and is based in Irvine, California. Its members include AlphaSports, Arctic Cat, Bombardier, Honda, John Deere, Kawasaki, Suzuki and Yamaha.

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