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OUTBOARD SAW CONVERSION

The rotary saw equipped with a metal cutting blade is an extremely important tool for us to have in our forcible entry cache. There are a handful of modifications and conversions that we can apply to the saw to make it perform more efficiently. The outboard saw conversion is one of the simplest and most effective modifications to make the saw a more versatile forcible entry tool. The outboard saw conversion involves moving the saw blade assembly to the right (or outboard) side of the saw body. This concept and guide are associated with a post that originally appeared on VentEnterSearch.com that can be found here:

<http://www.vententersearch.com/?p=2392>



1. LOOSEN THE TENSIONING SCREW SO THAT THE BELT TENSION RELEASES.



2. UNSCREW THE NUTS.



NOTICE THE MANUFACTURE HAS MOLDED A SLOT FOR THE SAW TO BE USED AS AN OUTBOARD.



3. REMOVE THE BELT GUARD AND CUTTER ARM.



4. INSERT CUTTER ARM INTO THE OUTBOARD SLOT OF THE SAW.



5. PLACE BELT GUARD OVER BELT.



6. TIGHTEN THE NUTS HALF WAY.



7. TENSION THE DRIVE BELT WHILE ROTATING THE BLADE BY HAND, THEN GO BACK AND TIGHTEN THE NUTS.



NOTICE TENSION THE DRIVE BELT BY SCREWING IN THE TENSIONING SCREW FAR ENOUGH SO THAT THE INDICATING SQUARE NUT COMES OPPOSITE THE ARROW.



IMPORTANT IF YOU ARE USING AN ONE DIRECTIONAL CUTTING BLADE, LIKE THE ONE PICTURED, YOU WILL NEED TO TAKE THE BLADE OFF AND FLIP IT.

8. UNSCREW BLADE DISC BOLT.



9. REMOVE THE BOLT AND DISC PLATE. FLIP THE CUTTING BLADE 180 DEGREES.



10. REPLACE THE CUTTING BLADE, DISC PLATE AND BOLT, TIGHTEN ASSEMBLY.

The outboard saw conversion gives us versatility while not compromising any other functions of the saw. The outboard saw still operates the same as a stock saw. There is however a noticeable change in how the saw "feels" to the operator since changing the location of the blade effects the gyroscopic effect on the saw. It is important to make sure everyone has operated the saw in a training setting before using it on an actual emergency run.

Please refer back to the original post mentioned on page one that provides more details about the conversion. The original post includes more information of "why" this conversion should be done. Please note: These steps are how to apply this conversion to a Partner/Husqvarna rotary saw, and are within the manufacture's recommendations. Please reference any recommendations and procedures before attempting this conversion to another brand or type of saw.