

**OPERATIONS SAFETY NOTICE**

May 31, 2002

**OSN 206-02-37**

**TO: All Owners/Operators of Bell 206 Helicopters**

**SUBJECT: TAIL ROTOR DISC PACK COUPLING P/N 32721-1, ATTACHING  
HARDWARE TORQUE CHECK OF.**

Bell Helicopter has learned of several incidents where the tail rotor disc pack coupling hardware was found disconnected shortly after maintenance had been done. After investigation it was concluded that the proper maintenance procedures were not followed.

A Temporary Revision to the maintenance manual was issued in July of 1998 to incorporate a 100-hour recurring torque check for the tail rotor disc pack coupling hardware as well as the application of torque seal after torquing.

To reduce the risk for such incidents in the future, concurrent with the 100-hour recurring torque check, the maintenance manual has been revised to introduce a new torque check that shall be accomplished 10 to 25 flight hours after the installation of a disc pack coupling. Refer to the applicable maintenance manual for the torque check instructions.

As a reminder, the torque called in our maintenance manual does not include the tare torque for the nut unless it is otherwise specified. Tare torque values can be found in Chapter 2 of the Standard Practice Manual (BHT-ALL-SPM). If the tare torque is not added to the applicable torque, correct torque would not be achieved. In all cases when the tare torque cannot be determined, Bell Helicopter recommends that a new nut be used.

It is also important to apply torque seal to the nut after initial torque application or torque check, as it will confirm that the work has been done.