

ALERT SERVICE BULLETIN
REVISION NOTICE
Bell Helicopter **TEXTRON**
A Subsidiary of Textron Inc.

DATE Sept 19, 2007

TO: **All Owners/Operators of Bell 427 Helicopters**

SUBJECT: **REVISION "A" TO ALERT SERVICE BULLETIN 427-07-18:
TAIL ROTOR BLADE ASSEMBLY, INSPECTION OF**

Revision "A" to this bulletin adds a statement for tail rotor blades that have been returned to an authorized Bell Helicopter rotor blade repair station for inspection in accordance with this ASB. These tail rotor blades will be permanently identified with the letter "L" immediately following the part number on the tail rotor blade identification plate.

AN APPROPRIATE ENTRY SHOULD BE MADE IN THE AIRCRAFT LOGBOOK UPON ACCOMPLISHMENT
IF OWNERSHIP OF AIRCRAFT HAS CHANGED PLEASE FORWARD TO NEW OWNER

ALERT SERVICE BULLETIN
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NO. 427-07-18

DATE SEP 11, 2007

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REV A

MODEL AFFECTED: 427

SUBJECT: TAIL ROTOR BLADE ASSEMBLY, INSPECTION
OF

HELICOPTERS AFFECTED: All Model 427 helicopters

COMPLIANCE: Prior to next flight.

DESCRIPTION:

The purpose of this bulletin is to achieve complete distribution of the attached RBI letter to Bell Helicopter's current operator list.

Affected tail rotor blades that have been inspected/repared in accordance with this ASB shall have letter "L" vibro-etched immediately following the part number on the tail rotor blade ID tag and returned to service.

A

APPROVAL:

Not Required.



September 11, 2007
Mr. Jack Denham
Executive Director of Product Support
Bell Helicopter Textron

Rotor Blades, Inc. (RBI) has received reports of three incidents in which weights were slung from tail rotor blades during flight significant causing vibration. The failures reported occurred ranging from 400 flight hours since repair to as short as 12 minutes. We have determined that this may affect most Bell models. To ensure safety and to expedite re-inspection required, we advise and ask you distribute to fleet on a most urgent basis.

Investigation indicates that tip weight screws may be missing the adhesive applied during the weight and balance process on these blades. The blades in question were all processed by one former RBI technician.

RBI has initiated customer contact and inspection of blades to reduce customer impact. Additionally, we are working with our local FAA representative to ensure regulations are met. I ask Bell support and assistance to ensure DOT and OEM requirements are met for release.

RBI is capable of carrying out inspection to existing requirements. Balance weight screws must be accessed and verified for correct installation. This must be carried out by a Bell approved Rotor Blade Repair Facility.

BEFORE THE NEXT FLIGHT, ALL OPERATORS SHOULD INSPECT THEIR TAIL ROTOR BLADES USING THE ATTACHED LIST TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEIR BLADES ARE AFFECTED. ALL AFFECTED BLADES SHOULD BE REMOVED FROM SERVICE IMMEDIATELY AND RETURNED TO AN RBI FACILITY FOR EXAMINATION AND REPAIR.

The list attached includes all blades RBI has determined re-inspection is required on.

Troy Penny
Director of Operations
Rotor Blades Inc.

Warranty Statement:

Owners / Operators of Bell Helicopters who comply with the instructions in this Bulletin will be eligible to return defective blades identified by serial number in the compliance section of this bulletin to your nearest RBI facility for inspection and repair at no cost. In order to process your request please contact your local RBI facility to make arrangements for the return of the blade or blade's using RBI's FedEx account #2546-92336.

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Part Number	S/N
427-016-001-109	A-132
	A-161
	A-169
	A-182