

ALERT SERVICE BULLETIN

429-11-03
19 December 2011

MODEL AFFECTED: 429

SUBJECT: MAIN ROTOR PITCH LINK ROD END BEARING
INSPECTION, INTRODUCTION OF.

HELICOPTERS AFFECTED: Serial number 57001 and subsequent which have
accumulated more than 50 hours flight time.

COMPLIANCE: Accomplish this bulletin within 10 flight hours of
operation following the publication date of this bulletin
and every 50 hours of operation thereafter.

DESCRIPTION:

Bell Helicopter has received reports of worn main rotor pitch link rod end bearing assemblies P/N 429-010-433-101/103. The scheduled inspection interval in this area of 12 month 800 hours is not sufficient to detect the current rate of wear. In addition, the combination of blade weight, positioning of the swashplate and the preload of the elastomers can make bearing play difficult to detect during a preflight exterior check.

APPROVAL:

The engineering design aspects of this bulletin are Transport Canada Civil Aviation (TCCA) approved.

CONTACT INFO:

For any questions regarding this bulletin, please contact:

Bell Helicopter Product Support Engineering - Intermediate Helicopters
Tel: 450-437-2077 / 1-800-463-3036 / pseinter@bellhelicopter.textron.com

MANPOWER:

Approximately 2 man-hours are required to complete this bulletin. This estimate is based on hands-on time, and may vary with personnel and facilities available.

WARRANTY:

There is no warranty associated with this bulletin.

MATERIAL:**Required Material:**

The following material is required for the accomplishment of this bulletin and may be obtained through your Bell Helicopter Textron Supply Center.

<u>Part Number</u>	<u>Nomenclature</u>	<u>Qty</u>
429-010-433-101	Rod End Assembly (lower)	As req'd
429-010-433-103	Rod End Assembly(upper)	As req'd
MS24665-155	Cotter Pin	As req'd

Consumable Material:

The following material is required to accomplish this bulletin, but may not require ordering, depending on the operator's consumable material stock levels. This material may be obtained through your Bell Helicopter Textron Supply Center.

<u>Part Number</u>	<u>Nomenclature</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Reference</u> *
AS100028	Lockwire	As Req'd	C-405

* C-XXX numbers refer to the consumables list in BHT-ALL-SPM Standard Practices Manual

SPECIAL TOOLS:

None required.

WEIGHT AND BALANCE:

Not affected.

ELECTRICAL LOAD DATA:

Not affected.

REFERENCES:

BHT-429-MM Maintenance Manual

PUBLICATIONS AFFECTED:

BHT-429-MM Maintenance Manual

ACCOMPLISHMENT INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Disconnect all the lower pitch link rod ends from the swashplate outer ring (BHT-429-MM-1 Chapter 62).
2. Inspect both upper and lower pitch link rod ends for bearing play.
3. If bearing play is detected, remove affected pitch link assembly and perform a dimensional check of both the axial and radial bearing play (BHT-429-MM-1 Chapter 62).
4. Replace any bearing which exceeds the allowable limits (BHT-429-MM-1 Chapter 62).
5. Re-connect or re-install main rotor pitch link assemblies (BHT-429-MM-1 Chapter 62)
6. Make an entry in helicopter historical service records indicating compliance with this Alert Service Bulletin.