

Bell Helicopter **TEXTRON**

A Subsidiary of Textron, Inc.

November 29, 2001

**INFORMATION LETTER 204-01-17
205-01-30
205B-01-11
212-01-46
UH-1H-II-01-11**

TO: All Owners/Operators of Bell 204, 205, 205B, 212, and UH-1H-II Series Helicopters

SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT ON MEDIUM HELICOPTER MAST ASB:

**204-00-51, Rev B
205-00-76, Rev B
205B-00-30, Rev B
212-00-106, Rev B
UH-1H-II-00-01, Rev B**

Bell Helicopter is releasing the following information letter in an effort to update all owner / operators regarding the mast ASB situation as well as remind them that the compliance of the ASB must be accomplished prior to year-end.

To date it is estimated that approximately 98% of all medium helicopter masts have been inspected. Average flaw rate has been that approximately 30% have had an inadequate radius while a further 30% have been found with burrs. The ASB states that "ALL" affected serial number masts must be inspected upon reaching 100,000 RINs, but no later than December 31, 2001. Operators are encouraged to accomplish this inspection as soon as possible. The digital microscope inspection equipment located at service centers around the world will be removed from those locations at the end of this year. Operators are reminded that warranty and inspection costs will no longer be offered after the compliance period.

Operators have been questioning the requirement to inspect masts with a DNFS serial number prefix. All masts with a DNFS prefix do not require inspection. These masts are manufactured by a new vendor, who was qualified to manufacture new masts after release of the bulletin.