

# **Bell Helicopter** **TEXTRON**

A Subsidiary of Textron, Inc.

May 26, 2000

**INFORMATION LETTER 206-00-83  
206L-00-69  
407-00-50**

**TO: All Owners/Operators of 206A/B/L series and 407 Helicopters.**

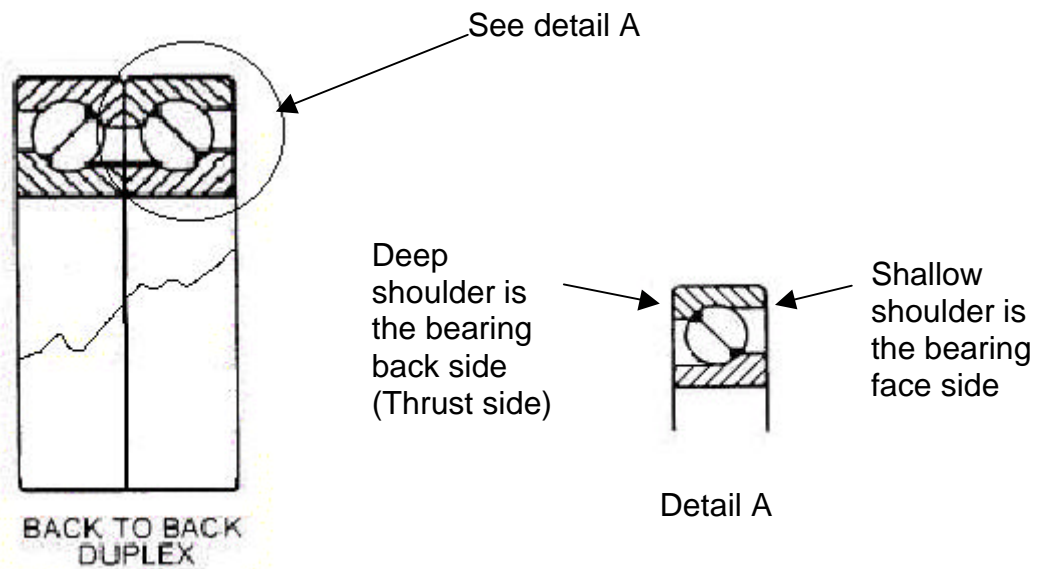
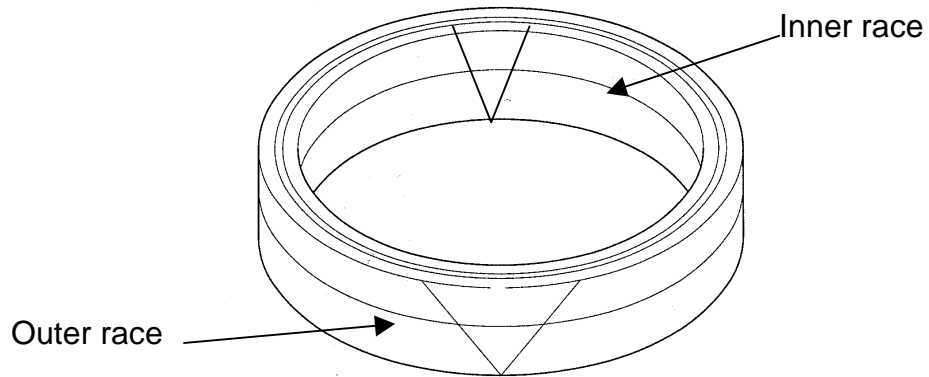
**SUBJECT: SWASHPLATE DUPLEX BEARING 206-010-443-001 AND 406-310-402-103 Vee MARK.**

This information letter is issued to clarify the purpose of the Vee mark on the swashplate duplex bearing. The swashplate duplex bearing 206-010-443-001 is used on 206A/B and L series helicopters and the swashplate duplex bearing 406-310-402-103 is used on 407 helicopters.

Feedback from the field indicates that some operators believe that the purpose for the Vee mark is to show how to put the two bearing halves together. This is partially true but it is not the main purpose.

In reality, the main reason for having a Vee mark on the bearing outer races and sometimes inner races, is to match the races at their high point of radial runout. All swashplate duplex bearings must have a Vee mark on the outer races. Duplex bearings inner races having a negligible amount of radial runout are not marked with a Vee meaning that the inner races do not need to be matched. As a function of maintenance, if surface corrosion is removed from the bearing surfaces that are in contact with the swashplate inner and outer rings, great care should be exercised to not remove the Vee mark where applied. If removed, the Vee mark can not be reapplied in the field. Duplex bearings that had their Vee mark removed from the outer races and in some cases inner races, should be considered unserviceable. Note also that any damage that requires polishing of the bearing back side is cause for rejection of the bearing. Refer to Figure 1 Detail A.

In addition, it seems that over the years some misinformation has been distributed about the orientation in which the two bearing halves are put together. The swashplate duplex bearing is assembled with its two halves back to back. Refer to Figure 1.



**NOTES:**

1. Vee mark is mandatory on bearing outer races and they must be matched.
2. Vee mark is not mandatory on bearing inner races. If Vee mark is present inner races must be matched.

**Figure 1. Swashplate duplex bearing installation**