



A Subsidiary of Textron, Inc.

March 8, 2005

INFORMATION LETTER 230-05-11

TO: All Owners/Operators of Bell 230 Helicopters.

**SUBJECT: INSPECTION OF MAIN ROTOR BLADES P/N 222-015-600
SERIES**

Bell Helicopter has recently become aware of the possibility that non-approved procedures were used in the replacement of abrasion strips on the subject blades. When accomplishing abrasion strip replacement, International Aviation Composites (IAC) may have used excess heat in the abrasion strip removal process. Excess heat in this application can weaken adjacent bonded surfaces.

This information letter is to advise all owner / operators to follow the published inspection procedures in the appropriate Maintenance Manuals closely. Primary area of concern is the skin to spar bond. Inspect closely for voids and / or cracks, spanwise, over the entire upper and lower surface of the blades.

Due to the heat conductive properties of metal, only the subject part number blades, which have had an abrasion strip replaced by IAC are affected by this IL. Blades that did not have an abrasion strip replacement are not affected.