

Bell Helicopter **TEXTRON**

A Subsidiary of Textron, Inc.

August 11, 2000

INFORMATION LETTER 407-00-53

TO: All Owners / Operators of FAA-Registered Bell Model 407

SUBJECT: OPERATION OF BELL 407 TO 130 KIAS - FAA BLANKET AMOC FOR ASB 407-99-27, REVISION A DATED 06-09-99

References: ASB 407-99-27; TB 407-99-17; FAA AD 99-06-15, Amendment 39-11111; and Final Rule AD 2000-14-16, Amendment 39-11827

Bell Helicopter issued Alert Service Bulletin 407-99-27 Revision A, Dated 06-09-99 to include a FAA AMOC statement to then active AD 99-06-15, Amendment 39-11111. Shortly thereafter superceding final rule AD 2000-14-16 was released. This former AD was recently reissued to state that compliance with ASB 407-99-33, Revision A, dated March 10, 2000 is terminating action for the requirements of this AD (refer to Amendment 39-11827, paragraphs [b] and [c]).

Some operators are concerned that the implied meaning of the text of the AD whereas, effective 29 August 2000, unless you have completed part b) of the AD, you are instructed to return your aircraft to 100 KIAS. The FAA has assured us that this is NOT the intent of the AD and that compliance with ASB 407-99-27 still constitutes an Alternate Means of Compliance (AMOC) to AD 99-06-15 and Final Rule AD 2000-14-16. After incorporating the referenced ASB and TB, and until ASB 407-99-33 is completed, operators can continue to operate at a V_{NE} of 130 KIAS.

Please annotate the affected helicopter records and log the attached letter from the FAA Rotorcraft Certification Office as your authority.



U.S. Department
of Transportation
Federal Aviation
Administration

Southwest Region
Arkansas, Louisiana,
New Mexico, Oklahoma,
Texas

DOT/FAA
ASW-111
Fort Worth, TX 76193-0111

AUG 04 2000

Mr. Somen Chowdhury
Manager, Continuing Airworthiness
Bell Helicopter Textron
12800 rue de l'Avenir
Mirabel, Quebec J7J 1R4

Dear Mr. Chowdhury:

By letter to your office dated July 6, 1999, the FAA accepted and approved Bell Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) 407-99-27, Revision A, dated June 9, 1999, as an acceptable means of compliance (AMOC) and terminating action for Airworthiness Directive (AD) 99-06-15.

Since the AMOC approval, AD 2000-14-16, effective August 29, 2000, will supersede AD 99-06-15 and the AMOC as written will no longer be valid. However, the acceptability of the AMOC is still considered appropriate for Paragraph (a) of AD 2000-14-16. Compliance to Paragraph (b) is still required in accordance with the mandated compliance time.

Therefore, this letter confirms that incorporation of the provisions and instructions of Bell ASB-407-99-27, Revision A, dated June 9, 1999, has been approved by the Manager, Rotorcraft Regulations Group as an alternate means of compliance and is considered terminating action to Paragraph (a) of AD 2000-14-16

Since the previous AMOC approval was distributed through the Bell ASB process, we would appreciate Bell distribution to the Bell 407 operators with a copy of this letter as appropriate.

If we can be of further assistance, please contact Sharon Miles at (817) 222-5122.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
Larry M. Kelly

Larry M. Kelly
Manager, Regulations Group
Rotorcraft Directorate