



A Subsidiary of Textron, Inc.

January 26, 2004

INFORMATION LETTER 407-04-77

TO: All Owners/Operators of Bell 407 series Helicopters

SUBJECT: M407 PROPULSION INSTRUMENT MAINTENANCE SOFTWARE (M407 PIMS) - INTRODUCTION OF

Changes to the Windows Operating Systems (OS) since the original release of the EPMPLUS software and hardware have caused the software not to function under Windows 2000, NT, and XP formats.

Bell Helicopter is pleased to announce the release of the M407 PIMS 407-770-002-101 that is capable of running in Windows 2000, NT, and XP formats. With its enhanced user interface, PIMS allows the user to download exceedances as well as view and modify the real time clock settings of the three propulsion instruments equipped with parameter storage and modification (i.e. MGT, Torque, and Ng propulsion instruments).

Effective immediately new aircraft deliveries will receive both the EPMPLUS and M407 PIMS software at the time of certification. Current operators may download both software versions from the Bell Helicopter website at the following address: <http://www.bellcustomer.com> under the "Propulsion Instruments Software" link. PIMS software has a self-installing executable (*.exe) file that will install the software to a location on the operator's computer. It includes a User's Manual to guide the user through any troubleshooting that may be required during the use of the PIMS.

A new RS485/232 converter 485SD9R, with integrated "handshaking" capabilities, that allows the EPMPLUS software to function under all Windows formats, is also available. The older converter 485LP9R did not have the "handshaking" capabilities built into the converter as is with the new style. The "handshaking" capabilities were dependent on the interface software, which was the root cause of the EPMPLUS software not functioning with the newer

Windows formats. Both RS 485/RS232 converters may be acquired through a Bell Helicopter Supply Center.

The M407 PIMS will not function on Windows 95, 98, or ME formats. Operators must continue to use the EPMPLUS software under these Windows formats. The EPMPLUS software will run under all Windows formats if the RS485/232 converter 485SD9R is used.

If you experience any difficulties with either version of the propulsion instrument software please contact Product Support Engineering for assistance at the following points of contact:

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Product Support Engineering
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