

**OPERATIONS SAFETY NOTICE**

November 24, 2004

OSN 206L-04-45**TO: All Owners/Operators of Bell 206L Series Helicopters****SUBJECT: TAILBOOM ATTACHMENT FITTINGS P/N 206-032-409-001 and P/N 206-031-403-005, PERIODIC INSPECTION OF**

Bell Helicopter has received two reports of 206L-4 tailboom attachment fittings found cracked. In both cases the cracks were found during the scheduled 100-hour inspection (Maintenance Manual, Chapter 5). Preliminary evaluation indicates that cracks originated from a rivet hole.

This Operation Safety Notice (OSN) is issued to stress the importance of adhering to the inspection requirements of the Maintenance Manual.

To facilitate the inspection, the area should be kept clean. The inspection on the four fittings, airframe and tailboom, is accomplished with a bright light and mirror. If this visual inspection raises any doubt as to the condition of the fitting, a 10X magnifying glass or other supplemental inspection method should be used to confirm the finding.

Particular attention is assigned to the first rivet line adjacent to the tailboom/airframe attachment bolt for the upper L/H airframe side-fitting 206-031-329-101/-103, the upper L/H tailboom side-fitting 206-032-409-001 and lower L/H tailboom side-fitting 206-031-403-005.

The attached pictures give examples of recently found cracks, which could occur on either leg of the fitting. If a crack is found, the fitting shall be replaced prior to next flight and Bell Helicopter Textron Product Support Engineering should be notified at the contacts below.

PSE Access Information.

Tel: 1-800-243-6407 (Continental USA and Canada)

Tel: 1-800-363-8023 (Continental USA)

Tel : 1-450-437-2862 (all over areas-call collect)

Fax: 1-450-433-0272 (Continental USA)

e-mail : pselight@bellhelicopter.textron.com

