

**OPERATIONS SAFETY NOTICE**

November 15, 2004

**OSN 230-04-08**

TO: All Owners/Operators of Bell 230 Helicopters

SUBJECT: **TAIL ROTOR BLADES 222-016-001-131**

This Operation Safety Notice (OSN) is issued to inform owners and operators of recent events affecting subject tail rotor blades.

Bell Helicopter Textron has received reports of two incidents in which tail rotor blades lost a section of the root doubler in flight. In all cases, the aircraft were successfully landed without further damage. Preliminary evaluation indicates that in both cases the blades were improperly prepared for bonding that resulted in the spar to doubler bond line being less than optimum.

Bell Helicopter Textron recommends that each owner and operator pay particular attention in checking for signs of doubler(s) debonding in the above mentioned area during preflight check.

If doubler(s) is found debonded, the blade must be replaced before the helicopter is released for flight and Bell Helicopter Textron Product Support Engineering must be notified.

Bell Helicopter Textron  
Product Support Engineering  
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Tel: 1-800-463-1971 (Canada)  
Tel: 1-450-437-2077 (all over areas-call collect)  
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