

TECHNICAL BULLETIN
Bell Helicopter

A Textron Company

No. 222-08-175

Date Sep 12, 2008

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DATE
REV

MODEL AFFECTED: 222/222B

SUBJECT: MAIN ROTOR MAST ASSEMBLY
(TORQUEMETER) SEVEN CALENDAR YEAR
INSPECTION, INCREASE OF

HELICOPTERS AFFECTED: Model 222 helicopters serial number 47006
through 47089.
Model 222B helicopters serial number 47131
through 47156.

COMPLIANCE: At customer's option

DESCRIPTION:

Bell Helicopter Textron has recently re-evaluated the calendar inspection requirement of the main rotor mast assembly. The inspection of numerous customer components returned to Bell Helicopter has provided sufficient documentation and justification to substantiate an increase of the main rotor mast assembly calendar inspection requirement from seven years to ten years.

This bulletin also introduces a scheduled inspection requirement of 600 hours or 12 months of component operation to specific areas of the main rotor mast assembly.

APPROVAL:

The engineering design aspects of this bulletin are Transport Canada Civil Aviation (TCCA) approved.

MANPOWER:

Approximately 5.0 man-hours are required to inspect the electroless nickel coated area of the mast and the exposed external surfaces of the mast. Man-hours are based on hands-on time, and may vary with personnel and facilities available.

WARRANTY:

There is no warranty credit applicable for parts or labor associated with this bulletin.

MATERIALS:

None required

SPECIAL TOOLS:

None required

WEIGHT AND BALANCE:

Not affected

ELECTRICAL LOAD DATA:

Not affected

REFERENCES:

BHT-222/222B-MM-1, Chapter 5-00-00

BHT-222-CR&O-2, Chapter 63-00-00

PUBLICATIONS AFFECTED:

BHT-222/222B-MM-1, Chapter 5-00-00

BHT-222-CR&O-2, Chapter 63-00-00

ACCOMPLISHMENT INSTRUCTIONS:

-NOTE-

In order to increase the main rotor mast assembly (torquemeter) calendar inspection interval from seven years to ten years, the electroless nickel coated area of the mast assembly and the exposed external surfaces of the mast pole located above the transmission must first be inspected on mast reaching seven calendar years of operation

Operators that were granted extensions to the mast seven calendar year inspection by BHT Product Support Engineering may complete their extension period before inspecting the electroless nickel coated area of the mast

assembly and the exposed external surfaces of the mast pole located above the transmission

1. Inspect the electroless nickel coated area of the main rotor mast assembly. Refer to BHT-CR&O-2, chapter 63-00-00.

-NOTE-

Removal of the main rotor hub assembly and main rotor swashplate assembly is NOT required to inspect the exposed external surfaces of the mast located above the transmission

2. Inspect the exposed external surfaces of the main rotor mast located above the transmission for corrosion and mechanical damage. Refer to BHT-CR&O-2, chapter 63-00-00.
3. Annotate the main rotor mast historical records to reflect the increased scheduled inspection interval from seven calendar years to ten calendar years.
4. Insert the BHT-222/222B-MM-1 Revision 6, dated 12 Sept 2008 into the BHT-222/222B-MM-1 manual.
5. Annotate the helicopter records to reflect compliance with this bulletin.