

TECHNICAL BULLETIN  
**Bell Helicopter**

A Textron Company

No. 230-08-41

Date Sep 12, 2008

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DATE
REV

**MODEL AFFECTED:** 230

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

**HELICOPTERS AFFECTED:** Model 230 helicopters serial number 23001  
through 23038.

**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-230-MM-2, Chapter 5-00-00

BHT-230-CR&O-2, Chapter 63-00-00

**PUBLICATIONS AFFECTED:**

BHT-230-MM-2, Chapter 5-00-00

BHT-230-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-230-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-230-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-230-MM-2 Revision 15, dated 12 Sept 2008 into the BHT-230-MM-2 manual.
5. Annotate the helicopter records to reflect compliance with this bulletin.