

**R44**

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**SERVICE LETTER SL-22**

**DATE:** 10 February 2000

**TO:** All R44 Owners, Operators, and Service Centers

**SUBJECT:** Belt Tension Actuator Troubleshooting

**BACKGROUND:** RHC Service Bulletin SB-33 mandated installation of a D602-1 actuator time delay to prevent drive belt overtensioning and to prolong actuator switch life. RHC has received reports of increased clutch light flickering and/or significantly increased clutch engagement time upon installation of the time delay. These are indications of a malfunctioning clutch actuator and/or excessive drive system vibration, **NOT** of a faulty time delay.

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**COMPLIANCE PROCEDURE:**

Use R44 Maintenance Manual (MM) change 7 dated 6 Dec 99 or subsequent.

If chronic clutch light flickering or significant increase in clutch engagement time is noted, proceed as follows:

1. Perform actuator test per R44 MM section 2.410, sequence 7.
2. Balance fan per R44 MM section 6.240.
3. If indications of malfunctioning clutch actuator continue, remove actuator and return to RHC for repair.
4. While actuator is off aircraft, inspect actuator bearings per R44 MM section 2.140(B). Replace any suspect bearing.
5. Do **NOT** fly an aircraft with a chronic flickering clutch light.
6. Do **NOT** disconnect time delay to reduce clutch light flickering. This will mask actuator problems until they become critical and could cause severe drive belt overtension.