

R44 SERVICE BULLETIN SB-95

DATE: 20 December 2017

TO: R44-series Owners, Operators, and Maintenance Personnel

SUBJECT: Main Gearbox Upgrades

ROTORCRAFT AFFECTED: R44-series helicopters equipped with C006-3 or -5 main gearboxes which do not have B900-9 gearbox modification. Spare C006-3, -4, -5, or -6 gearboxes which do not have B900-9 modification are also affected.

Note: C006-7 & -8 main gearboxes are not affected by this bulletin. R44 S/N 2409 & subsequent, R44 II S/N 13839 & subsequent, and all R44 Cadets were originally equipped with C006-7 gearboxes.

TIME OF COMPLIANCE: When gearbox reaches 12 years since new or since overhaul or by 31 January 2020, whichever occurs later. "12 years" means twelve years from date of factory-issued helicopter airworthiness certificate or factory-issued release certificate (FAA Form 8130-3, Airworthiness Approval Tag). Calendar service time accumulates whether or not gearbox is installed in a helicopter.

BACKGROUND: Earlier-revision main gearbox gear carriers are more susceptible to corrosion, which may lead to failure of the carrier. Later revision gearboxes incorporate design changes which improve corrosion resistance. This bulletin requires earlier gearboxes be returned to RHC for upgrade or exchange to the corrosion-resistant design.

COMPLIANCE PROCEDURE:

1. Determine gearbox part number and modification status; modification is indicated by a data plate near sight gage. For C006-7 or -8 gearboxes or for gearboxes with B900-9 modification plate, no further action is required; proceed to step 3.
2. If gearbox is affected, return to RHC by specified compliance time. Depending on condition, gearbox will be upgraded and identified with a B900-9 modification plate adjacent to the C006 data plate, or gearbox will be overhauled and re-identified as a C006-7 or -8 gearbox. Note: Significant internal corrosion will require gearbox overhaul.
3. Make appropriate maintenance record entries.

APPROXIMATE COST:

\$10,500 for B900-9 modification. Possible additional charge if parts are found unserviceable. Allow four weeks at the factory.

\$25,100 for C006-7R overhauled-exchange main gearbox, plus \$8600 core deposit. Immediate availability typical.

THE DESIGN ENGINEERING ASPECTS OF THIS BULLETIN HAVE BEEN SHOWN TO COMPLY WITH APPLICABLE FEDERAL AVIATION REGULATIONS AND ARE FAA APPROVED.