Australian Government
Civil Aviation Safety Authority

AIRWORTHINESS BULLETIN

Bell 206 L Tail Rotor Root End Disbond.

AWB 64-001 **Issue** : 1
Date : 1 June 2007

1. Applicability

Bell 206L series.

2. Purpose

Alert operators and maintainers to an increase in the number of defect reports submitted regarding disbonding tail rotor root end doublers.

3. Background

During a daily inspection, it was discovered the doubler plate had debonded at the root area on the leading edge. The end plate appeared to lack characteristic anodising. It appears that corrosion between the doubler and end plate may have caused this debonding. There have been similar reports of disbonding on high TTIS blades, this was the second occurrence of this defect on this helicopter's tail rotor blades which had been installed at manufacture. Similar defect reports note that in some cases, there is evidence of paint "touch-up" in the area.

4. Recommendation

1. Perform careful pre-flight inspections in area of the leading edge root end doubler plate, for evidence of disbonding.

2. Remove from service all blades exhibiting signs of root end doubler plate disbonding.

5. Enquiries

Enquiries with regard to the content of this Airworthiness Bulletin should be made via the direct link e-mail address: AirworthinessBulletin@casa.gov.au

Or in writing, to:

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