

AWB 27-2 Issue 1, Bell helicopter - faulty pitch link barrels

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AWB 27-2 Issue 1, 5 September 2001

Effectivity

Bell 204, 205, 205B, 212, and HUEY-II Helicopters

Purpose

Alert all owners of the above helicopters regarding the existence of incorrectly manufactured turnbuckle (pitch link barrel) bodies, and identify the non-conforming items, in order to ensure that only approved parts are fitted to aircraft.

Background

Recently the United States Army released a Safety of Flight Message (SOF) #UH-1-01-05, titled "Inspection of Turnbuckle Body 204 - 011-137-001". Bell Helicopter Textron have issued INFORMATION LETTER GEN 01-79. The information in this AWB is based on the information contained in that letter. A Commercial And Government Entity (CAGE) code number 05056 had been providing the US Army with an incorrectly manufactured part. Conformance inspection revealed that the turnbuckles identified below had non-conforming threads.

Identification of non-conforming turnbuckles

Bell Helicopter Textron (BHT) wish to advise that the turnbuckles (or turnbarrels) with non-conforming threads are marked with a "MS" prefix to the serial number (S/N).

Identification of BHT authorised turnbuckles

Bell Helicopter's approved manufactured turnbuckle will have serial number (S/N) prefix of "MW" or "DI".

Recommendations

BHT advise that the "MS" prefix turnbarrels are not authorised for installation on a commercial aircraft and should be removed immediately.

Enquiries

Enquiries with regard to the content of Airworthiness Bulletins should be made via the direct link e-mail address included on the Airworthiness Bulletin web site, AirworthinessBulletin@casa.gov.au or in writing to Maintenance Standards Branch, GPO Box 2005, Canberra ACT 2601.