

Reflections on Inspections

SOME CREW MEMBERS SHOW NO RESPECT FOR THEIR BIRDS WHEN DOING THEIR PRE-FLIGHT INSPECTIONS!

THEY STEP WHERE THEY SHOULDN'T STEP AND GRAB WHAT THEY SHOULDN'T GRAB TO SEE WHAT THEY SHOULD SEE!

Then their bird is in worse shape than when they started their inspection. Crew members should take the time to pull up a maintenance stand or ladder to climb up top. But some grab the tail-



boom navigation light to pull themselves up onto the stinger. Neither the light nor the stinger are made to support a person's weight, so the components or the airframe or both are damaged—rivets come loose and sheet metal tears.

To check the sight gage of the tail rotor gearbox, some pilots and crew chiefs grab the driveshaft—or even the roller chain—as they swing around from the left side to the right side.

That eventually warps driveshaft couplings' grease seals.

The point is, crew members, take it easy on your birds when you do pre-flights, or any kind of inspection for that matter. Step and grab only in places designed to support your full weight. And use maintenance platforms to get nose to nose with components high up.

