

The self-purging particle separator on your Huey (UH-1) and Cobra (AH-1G) does a good job of keeping dirt from getting into the engine inlet. But it does need a little help.

Fact is, there's an air cleaner in the lower half of the separator that many mechs are overlooking during the preventive maintenance periodic.

To get to the air cleaner, make with the wrenches, man!

Once you get the air cleaner off you'll notice dirt in the center vortex.

The dirt clings to the filter due to oil leaking from nose case seals, or from transmission input quill seals. With the separator plugged, sand and dust are no longer purged. The dirt enters the engine and erodes compressor components.

That's one reason some T-53 engines fall short of the 1800-hr time before overhaul.

So, make with the warm water and soap. Mix 1 part B & B 3100 cleaner, with 4 parts water, to clean the air cleaner. Never use drycleaning solvent because it will damage the bonded vortex units in the air cleaner.

Apply the solution with an air/solvent vaporizing gun, at a pressure of 60 PSI.

