A Textron Company

**INFORMATION LETTER** **GEN-19-142**

7 May 2019

**TO:** **All owners and operators of Bell helicopters**

**SUBJECT: UTILIZATION OF ANTI-ICING ADDITIVE IN THE FUEL SYSTEM**

Bell has received a report of a customer discovering damage to fuel system components following excessive servicing of fuel anti-icing additive. A full quart of anti-icing additive was introduced in the fuel system of the helicopter through the fuel refueling port after refueling. Because the non-diluted additive is heavier than fuel, the contents of the quart descended to the sump of the mid fuel cell.

Prior to taking off, the pilot noticed an anomaly with the fuel quantity indication and immediately advised the maintenance staff. Upon investigation, the technicians discovered that the fuel cell had begun deteriorating around the fuel sump. The fuel cell was sent to the supplier for evaluation and the results of the investigation have revealed that the deterioration was caused by an excessively high concentration of anti-icing additive.

Bell wishes to remind operators to carefully observe the concentration level of anti-icing additive in the fuel. This information can be found in the "Limitations" section of the applicable Flight Manual or on the placard near the refueling port of the helicopter. It should also be noted that some fuels may already contain anti-icing additive and therefore, do not require additional anti-icing additive. Failure to observe these recommendations may result in damage to the fuel system components and, potentially, some engine components.

For any questions regarding this letter, please contact:

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