

OPERATIONS SAFETY NOTICE

May 02, 2002

OSN GEN 02-32

TO: All Owners/Operators of Bell Helicopters

SUBJECT: BOGUS PARTS TAIL ROTOR GRIPS

BELL HELICOPTER TEXTRON HAS BEEN MADE AWARE THAT UNITED AIRCRAFT & ELECTRONICS IN ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA HAS BEEN SUPPLYING UNAIRWORTHY/BOGUS PARTS. THE PARTS IN QUESTION ARE THE 204-011-728-019 AND 205-011-711-101 TAIL ROTOR GRIPS. UNITED AIRCRAFT & ELECTRONICS REWORKED THE 204-011-728-019 ALUMINUM GRIPS IMPROPERLY MARKED AND CERTIFIED THEM AS 205-011-711-101 STEEL GRIPS.

IF ANY BELL OWNERS OR OPERATORS HAVE PURCHASED THESE PARTS FROM UNITED AIRCRAFT & ELECTRONICS THEY SHOULD REMOVE THE UNAIRWORTHY PARTS FROM SERVICE IMMEDIATELY. THE TAIL ROTOR GRIPS ARE UNAPPROVED PARTS AND ARE NOT AUTHORIZED FOR USE BY BELL HELICOPTER.

THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA) HAS ISSUED AN EMERGENCY AIRWORTHY DIRECTIVE (AD) 2002-08-53, ADDRESSING THE UNAIRWORTHY PARTS.