TAIL ROTOR BLADE DRAIN HOLE CLEARANCE

SUMMARY:
HTC has observed completely or partially blocked Drain Holes in the Tip-End on fielded Tail Rotor Blades. Trapped water can cause a Failure of the Tip Cap bond, onset of significant vibration, and other significant damage to the internal structure of the Tail Rotor Blade, including corrosion.

Procedures in this service notice provide owners and operators with information pertaining to clearing the Drain Hole in the Tip-End on Tail Rotor Blades.

PURPOSE:
The purpose of this notice is to provide a procedure for clearing the Drain Hole in the Tip-End on Tail Rotor Blades.

Failure to comply with this bulletin may result in significant Tail Rotor Vibration, Corrosion, and/or Damage to the internal structure of the blade.

PART NUMBERS AND SERIAL NUMBERS AFFECTED:
500P3100 All Variants (STC Number SR09213RC) All Serial Numbers.
This blade is also known as MD Helicopters, Inc. Part Number 369D21640 All Variants and all references in MD Helicopters, Inc. CSP-HMI-2 that pertain to part number 369D21640 All Variants pertain to HTC part number 500P3100 All Variants as well.

500P3100 All Variants (STC Number SR01282LA) All serial Numbers.
This blade is also known as MD Helicopters, Inc. Part Number 369D21641 All Variants and all references in MD Helicopters, Inc. CSP-HMI-2 that pertain to part number 369D21641 All Variants pertain to HTC part number 500P3100 All Variants as well.

500P3300 All Variants (STC Number SR01282LA) All Serial Numbers.
This blade is also known as MD Helicopters, Inc. Part Number 369D21643 All Variants and all references in MD Helicopters, Inc. CSP-H-2 and CSP-H-4 that pertain to part number 369D21643 All Variants pertain to HTC part number 500P3300 All Variants as well.

500P3500 All Variants (STC Number SR01282LA) All Serial Numbers.
This blade is also known as MD Helicopters, Inc. Part Number 369D21642 All Variants and all references in MD Helicopters, Inc. CSP-HMI-2 that pertain to part number 369D21642 All Variants pertain to HTC part number 500P3500 All Variants as well.

HELICOPTER MODELS AFFECTED:
MD Helicopters, Inc. Models 369A, H, HE, HM, HS, D, E, and FF.
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TIME OF COMPLIANCE:
This bulletin shall be accomplished within 25 hours of receipt of this notice and at every 100 Hour Inspection thereafter.

FAA APPROVAL:
N/A.

MANPOWER:
Approximately 0.25 man-hours will be required to accomplish this notice.

WARRANTY POLICY:
N/A

DISPOSITION OF PARTS REMOVED:
N/A

REFERENCES:
1) MD Helicopters, Inc. Handbook of Maintenance Instructions (CSP-H-2), Revision 17, dated May 15, 2001 or later
2) MD Helicopters, Inc. Appendix B (CSP-H-4), Revision 1, dated May 14, 2001 or later
3) MD Helicopters, Inc. Handbook of Maintenance Instructions (CSP-HMI-2), Revision 29, dated May 11, 2001 or later
4) MD Helicopters, Inc. Rotorcraft Log Book (CSP-RLB), Revision 2, dated February 17, 2000 or later

REQUIRED MATERIALS:
1) Naphtha or Rubbing Alcohol
2) Kim Wipes or equivalent clean lint-free wipes.
3) 3/32 (0.093 inch diameter) Jobber Length Drill Bit
4) Touch-Up Paint
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INSPECTION INSTRUCTIONS:

1) Clean Tip-End area thoroughly with Solvent. Naphtha is recommended. MPK, MEK, or Acetone should not be used as they will remove the pigment from the paint. See Figure 1 below.

2) Visually Inspect areas to find evidence of Drain Hole Blockage. See Figure 1 below.

3) By hand, ensure that 3/32 Drill bit fits through both the Forward and Aft Tip-End Drain Holes to a depth of 1.25 inch maximum. See Figure 1 below.

4) If bare metal is exposed during the above step, touch-up paint as required. Do not re-block holes with paint.

Figure 1 – Tip-End Drain Holes – 0.093 inch diameter (Forward and Aft)
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RECORDING AND COMPLIANCE:
Record compliance with this Service Notice in the Technical Directives and Bulletins section of the rotor blade Serviceable Component Record.

POINTS OF CONTACT:
For further information and rotor blade disposition, contact Helicopter Technology Company, LLC (HTC) at (310) 523-2750, or FAX (310) 523-2745. www.helicoptertech.com