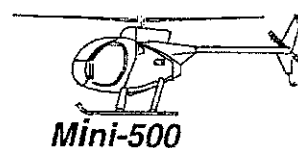




REVOLUTION

HELICOPTER CORP., INC.



1905 W. Jesse James Rd. • Excelsior Springs, Missouri 64024
Phone (816) 637-2800 • Fax (816) 637-7936

March 15, 1999

Revolution Helicopter Airworthiness Directive (AD) #031599

Effected Aircraft: All Mini-500 helicopters shipped before March 15, 1999.
AD Type: Urgent (Must be complied with before further operation of the aircraft).
Subject: Frame Cracking

There has been cracking occurring on the 1" diameter tube behind the main transmission rear mount, and other areas of the airframe. RHCI has completed a lengthy investigation and testing program. This investigation indicates the cause of the various cracks are due to high 2-per-rev rotor induced vibration and high frequency engine vibration. This is present in all Mini-500 helicopters. There is no possible way to stop these vibrations from occurring with the present design through dynamic balancing or other adjustments. Low 2-per-rev rotor vibration levels being monitored on the nose of the Mini-500 are deceiving, and the destructive forces still exist. Although there have been no accidents because of frame cracking, that does not mean it won't cause a future accident if further operation is continued with the existing problem.

It is absolutely imperative that the Mini-500 helicopter is not operated or flown while this inherent problem exists. All operations must be ceased immediately until the approved RHCI corrective action is installed on the Mini-500 helicopter. The NTSB, FAA and foreign authorities are being notified of this AD and the importance of complying with it.

Corrective Action: Mast Support System

1. Obtain the RHCI approved Mast Support and Upgrade kit, and install it onto the Mini-500 helicopter as per instructions.
2. Perform the new track and dynamic balancing procedure to the Mini-500 main rotor system.
3. Continue normal flight operations.

Please date and sign this AD, then fax or mail it back to Revolution Helicopter Corp. within 30 days of its receipt. If you have any questions, please contact:

Revolution Helicopter Corp.

1905 W. Jesse James Rd.
Excelsior Springs, MO 64024
Tel: (816) 637-2800
Fax: (816) 637-7936

Print Name: _____

Aircraft SN# _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____