TO: All owners and operators of Models 204, 205, 205B, 212, 412, 412CF.

SUBJECT: REMOVAL OF ZINC CHROMATE PRIMER STRIPES AS AN OVERHEAT CONDITION INDICATION.

This Information Letter is issued to inform all Bell Helicopter medium helicopter owners and operators that the application of a zinc chromate primer stripe on tail rotor drive shaft bearing hangars is no longer required. Analysis of Zinc Chromate Primer from suppliers who complied with Bell Helicopter’s specifications revealed an inconsistent color change during heating. Therefore, Bell Helicopter no longer recommends reliance on primer stripe color change as an indicator of overheat conditions.

Bell Helicopter recommends a visual inspection of tail rotor hangar bearings for excessive loss of grease, discoloration of the inner race and seal retainer or a degraded seal. Maintenance manuals will be amended to reflect these changes in a future revision.

For any questions regarding this letter, please contact:

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