Proposed Rules

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices to the public of the proposed issuance of rules and regulations. The purpose of these notices is to give interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making prior to the adoption of the final rules.

Issued in Washington, DC, on May 12, 2003.

Donald P. Byrne,

Assistant Chief Counsel for Regulations.
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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 3

[Docket No. FAA-2003-15062; Notice No. 03-07]

RIN 2120-AG08

False and Misleading Statements Regarding Aircraft Products, Parts, and Materials; Correction

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Proposed rule; correction.

SUMMARY: This document makes a correction to the notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) published in the Federal Register on May 5, 2003 (68 FR 23808). The NPRM proposed additional rules that would prohibit certain false or misleading statements regarding type certificated products, parts, and materials that may be used on type certificated products. The proposal would also allow increased inspection by the FAA of records and parts regarding the quality of aircraft parts.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Beverly Sharkey, (703) 668–3720; e-mail: beverly.j.sharkey@faa.gov.

Correction

In FR Doc. 03–10946 published on May 5, 2003, on page 23808, in the second column, correct the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** paragraph to read as follows:

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Beverly Sharkey, Suspected Unapproved Parts Program Office (AVR–20), Federal Aviation Administration, 13873 Park Center Rd., Suite 165, Herndon, VA 20171; telephone (703) 668–3720, facsimile (703) 481–3002, e-mail beverly,j.sharkey@faa.gov.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 2003-SW-04-AD]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; MD Helicopters Inc., Model 600N Helicopters

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking

(NPRM).

SUMMARY: This document proposes adopting a new airworthiness directive (AD) for MD Helicopters Inc. Model 600N helicopters. The AD would require reducing the life limit of the main rotor drive shaft (drive shaft) and changing the life limit shown on the component history card or equivalent record. This proposal is prompted by the review of final fatigue test data, which indicates that the life limit of the drive shaft should be reduced by 2000 hours time-in-service (TIS). The actions specified by the proposed AD are intended to prevent failure of the drive shaft, loss of drive to the main rotor system, and subsequent loss of control of the helicopter.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before July 18, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, Attention: Rules Docket No. 2003–SW–04–AD, 2601 Meacham Blvd., Room 663, Fort Worth, Texas 76137. You may also send comments electronically to the Rules Docket at the following address: 9-asw-adcomments@faa.gov. Comments may be inspected at the Office of the Regional Counsel between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Guy Dalla Riva, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, Los Angeles Aircraft Certification Office, Propulsion Branch, 3960 Paramount Blvd., Lakewood, California 90712, telephone (562) 627–5248, fax (562) 627–5210.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

Interested persons are invited to participate in the making of the proposed rule by submitting such written data, views, or arguments as they may desire. Communications should identify the Rules Docket number and be submitted in triplicate to the address specified above. All communications received on or before the closing date for comments will be considered before taking action on the proposed rule. The proposals contained in this document may be changed in light of the comments received.

Comments are specifically invited on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy aspects of the proposed rule. All comments submitted will be available, both before and after the closing date for comments, in the Rules Docket for examination by interested persons. A report summarizing each FAA-public contact concerned with the substance of this proposal will be filed in the Rules Docket.

Commenters wishing the FAA to acknowledge receipt of their mailed comments submitted in response to this proposal must submit a self-addressed, stamped postcard on which the following statement is made: "Comments to Docket No. 2003–SW–04–AD." The postcard will be date stamped and returned to the commenter.

Discussion

This document proposes adopting a new AD for MD Helicopters Inc. Model 600N helicopters. The AD would require reducing the life limit of the drive shaft from 16,000 hours TIS to 14,000 hours TIS and revising the component history card or an equivalent record to reflect the reduced life limit. This proposal is prompted by the review of final fatigue test data, which indicates that the life limit of the drive shaft should be reduced to prevent parts from remaining in service beyond their fatigue life. This condition, if not corrected, could result in failure of the drive shaft, loss of drive to the main