



UNAPPROVED PARTS NOTIFICATION

SUSPECTED UNAPPROVED PARTS PROGRAM OFFICE, AVS-20
13873 PARK CENTER ROAD, SUITE 165
HERNDON, VA 20171

U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Aviation
Administration**

No. 2006-00097
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<http://www.faa.gov/aircraft/safety/programs/sups/upn/>

AFFECTED PRODUCTS

Bell Helicopter Textron models 204, 205, 212, and UH-1 (all makes).

PURPOSE

The purpose of this notification is to advise aircraft owners, operators, manufacturers, maintenance organizations, and parts suppliers and distributors regarding tail rotor hanger bearings produced without Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) production approval.

BACKGROUND

Information received during an FAA suspected unapproved parts investigation revealed that Hill Industries, Inc. (Hill), 19734 Dearborn Street, Chatsworth, CA 91311, sold unapproved tail rotor hanger bearings. Hill also represented the bearings as Bell Helicopter Textron approved.

Evidence indicates that Hill, without Bell Helicopter Textron approval, electro-etched two different Bell Helicopter Textron part numbers on the unapproved bearings. The two part numbers are 204-040-623-003 and 204-040-623-005. However, some bearings are marked with both part numbers, and others are marked with 204-040-623-3 and/or 204-040-623-5.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Regulations require that type-certificated products conform to their type design. Aircraft owners, operators, manufacturers, maintenance organizations, and parts suppliers and distributors are encouraged to inspect their aircraft and/or parts inventories for the referenced part numbers. If these bearings are found in existing inventory, it is recommended that they be quarantined to prevent installation until a determination can be made regarding their origin and eligibility for installation.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information concerning this investigation may be obtained from the FAA Manufacturing Inspection District Office (MIDO) listed below. In addition to the above recommendations, the FAA would appreciate any information concerning the discovery of the above-referenced bearings from any source, the means used to identify the source, and the actions taken to remove the bearings from aircraft and/or parts inventories.

This notice originated from the FAA Van Nuys MIDO, 7120 Hayvenhurst Ave., Suite 100, Van Nuys, CA 91406, telephone (818) 904-6298, ext. 34, fax (818) 904-6001; and was published through the FAA Suspected Unapproved Parts Program Office, AVS-20, telephone (703) 668-3720, fax (703) 481-3002.