Subject: Special Airworthiness Information Bulletins (SAIB) AIR 21-19R1 Incorrect Breakaway Pin Installations.

Purpose: This InFO serves to remind Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 133 rotorcraft operators, owners, pilots and maintenance personnel of a potential safety issue(s) regarding breakaway pin installation. The potentially affected aircraft are (MDHI) Model 369D, 369E, 369F, 369FF, 500N, and 600N helicopters with installed Colorado Helicopters, Inc. Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) SH5230NM Side Pull Hook Assembly.

Background: The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) became aware that the breakaway pin installed on STC SH5230NM could be replaced with the wrong pin or a bolt prior to operations.

Discussion: The side pull hook link installation is certified for a maximum pull load of 1,900 pounds and is safeguarded by the calibrated breakaway pin connecting the two pieces of the swivel. If the side pull hook link installation is overloaded, the breakaway pin is designed to shear and allow the load line to fall away without upsetting the helicopter. Installation of other than the approved breakaway pin could result in helicopter damage, upset, and loss of control if the maximum pull load of 1,900 pounds is exceeded.

Recommended Action: The FAA recommends owners, operators and pilots of the affected aircraft listed in this InFO conduct a visual inspection of the breakaway pin per SAIB AIR 21-19R1 before conducting any side pull operations. If the pin is

- not secured by the retaining ring, or
- not green on one end, or
- does not fill the hole through the swivel, or
- shows signs of damage,

it should be replaced with pin part number 91106-018 prior to the next side pull operation.

Contact: Questions or comments regarding this InFO should be directed to the Aircraft Maintenance Division at (202) 267-1675, or via email at 9-AWA-AFS-300-Maintenance@faa.gov.