



**U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
Federal Aviation  
Administration**

# InFO

Information for Operators

InFO 23006

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Flight Standards Service  
Washington, DC

**[http://www.faa.gov/other\\_visit/aviation\\_industry/airline\\_operators/airline\\_safety/info](http://www.faa.gov/other_visit/aviation_industry/airline_operators/airline_safety/info)**

*An InFO contains valuable information for operators that should help them meet certain administrative, regulatory, or operational requirements, with relatively low urgency or impact on safety. The contents of this document do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way. This document is intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies.*

**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](mailto:9-AWA-AFS-300-Maintenance@faa.gov).