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Information for Operators

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Subject: Corrosion on Bell Helicopter Engine-Mount Leg-Assembly.

Purpose: This InFO informs helicopter operators and repair facilities of potential failure of the engine-mount assemblies on Bell Helicopter models 206L1 and 206L3 due to corrosion.

Background: On July 17, 2014, a Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) Part 135, helicopter air ambulance (HAA) operator, conducted a fleet inspection of the engine mount leg assemblies on all their Bell Helicopter 206Ll and 206L3 aircraft. The company reported, "During a recent engine change, a steel engine mount leg was discovered to be corroded from the inside out and cracked." Further inspection revealed 28 of the operator's aircraft used the same type of steel construction for the engine mount leg assemblies. The HAA operator uses a total of 28 Bell 206Ll and 206L3 aircraft which represents 21% of their fleet.

Discussion: Based on the information provided, Bell Helicopter has initiated an Operational Safety Notice (OSN); 206L-OSN-15-51, date January 21, 2015 about the engine mount leg assemblies. The company has changed the material from steel to corrosion resistant steel in the affected parts. See affected part numbers shown in the table below as part of the transition from steel to corrosion resistant steel (CRES).

Part Number	Description	Effectivity	Tube Material
206-064-105-00I	Lateral LIH leg	LI 45154-45840, L3 51001-51513	Steel
206-064-105-10I	Lateral I LIH leg	L3 5 1 5 1 4-SUB, L4 52001-SUB	CRES
206-064-105-002	Lateral RIH leg	L I 451 54-45840, L3 51 001-5151 3	Steel
206-064-105-102	Lateral RIH leg	L3 51514-SUB, L4 52001-SUB	CRES
206-064-106-00I	FWD leg	L1 451 54-45840, L3 51001-5151 3	Steel
206-064-106-I 0I	FWD leg	L3 51514-SUB, L4 52001-SUB	CRES
206-064-107-001	AFT LIH leg	L1 45154-45840, L3 51001-51513	Steel
206-064-107-I 0I	AFT LIH leg	L3 51514-SUB	CRES

Part Number	Description	Effectivity	Tube Material
206-064-107-I 09	AFT LIH leg	L4 5200 I-SUB	CRES
206-064-107-003	AFT R/H leg	L145154-45840, L3 51001-51513	Steel
206-064-107-I 03	AFT R/H leg	L3 51514-SUB	CRES
206-064-107-111	AFT R/H leg	L4 5200 I-SUB	CRES

Service Difficulty Report Information. A review of the Service Difficulty Report (SDR) database for the above part numbers revealed 11 reports specifically related to engine-mount leg-assembly failure due to corrosion. The reports were submitted by air operators in the United States who use this type of aircraft.

Recommended Action: Operators and repair facilities should familiarize themselves with the information in this InFO, as well as applicable Bell Helicopter Bulletins, Notices and Letters regarding the engine- mount leg-assembly, to be aware of and reduce the risk of possible accidents caused by corrosion. Operators and repair facilities should also pay close attention to the engine mount areas and associated components during inspections for signs of corrosion. Currently there are 201 BHT-206L1 and 203 BHT-206L3 aircraft registered in the United States that may be affected.

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.