

**R44 SERVICE BULLETIN SB-93**

**R66 SERVICE BULLETIN SB-22**

**DATE:** 6 June 2017

**TO:** R44-series & R66-series Owners, Operators, and Maintenance Personnel

**SUBJECT:** Horizontal Stabilizer Nutplates

**ROTORCRAFT AFFECTED:** R44-series & R66-series Helicopters equipped with C044-1 horizontal stabilizer assemblies S/N 7740 thru 8519 and 8690 thru 8719.

**TIME OF COMPLIANCE:** Within next 10 flight hours.

**BACKGROUND:** An operator noticed signs of loose vertical stabilizer attach bolts (fretting debris) during preflight inspection. Subsequent investigation revealed three cracked MS21086L4 nutplates where the C042-1 & C043-1 vertical stabilizers attach to the C044-1 horizontal stabilizer (there are eight total nutplates, four per vertical stabilizer). All of the cracked nutplates are from a single manufacturer's lot which were used on the stabilizer S/Ns above. This bulletin requires verifying the integrity of the nutplates.

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**COMPLIANCE PROCEDURE:**

1. Determine C044-1 horizontal stabilizer serial number from data plate at inboard rib. If serial number is not in the affected range, no further action is required.
2. For affected stabilizer assemblies, remove torque stripe from eight NAS6604-6 bolts and eight C130-9 spacers securing C042-1 (upper) & C043-1 (lower) vertical stabilizers to C044-1 horizontal stabilizer.
3. Apply 185 inch-pounds torque to each bolt, and observe rotation. If any bolt rotates more than one flat (1/6 of a turn), remove vertical stabilizer(s) and visually inspect corresponding nutplate for cracks. Contact RHC Technical Support with location of any cracked nutplate(s) and C044-1 horizontal stabilizer serial number. Replace any cracked nutplate(s) prior to further flight. Reinstall vertical stabilizer(s) and torque attach bolts to 185 inch-pounds.
4. Apply torque seal from bolt head across spacer to vertical stabilizers, eight places.
5. Make appropriate maintenance entry records.

**APPROXIMATE COST:**

Parts: None.

Labor: Approximately 0.5 man-hour.

THE DESIGN ENGINEERING ASPECTS OF THIS BULLETIN HAVE BEEN SHOWN TO COMPLY WITH APPLICABLE FEDERAL AVIATION REGULATIONS AND ARE FAA APPROVED.