

R22 SERVICE LETTER SL-53

DATE: 21 Nov 01

TO: ALL R22 Owners, Operators and Service Centers

SUBJECT: Visual Inspection of Main Rotor Blade Root Area

BACKGROUND: A main rotor blade fatigue failure could occur if the helicopter is repeatedly flown above its approved gross weight limit or operated above its approved manifold pressure limits. The first indication of a fatigue crack in progress may be a rotor that will not stay balanced after being adjusted. Another indication may be the appearance of a very fine hairline crack appearing in the areas shown in the figure below.

COMPLIANCE PROCEDURE:

1. Visually examine both the upper and lower surface of each blade in the areas shown with a 10x magnifying glass.
2. If any indication of a crack is found, immediately ground the aircraft and return the suspect blade to the RHC factory for examination.

