

R44

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SERVICE BULLETIN SB-29

DATE: 9 July 1998

TO: All R44 Owners, Operators, and Service Centers

SUBJECT: Replacement of Crankshaft Gear Retaining Bolt

ROTORCRAFT AFFECTED: R44 Helicopters S/N 0010, 0012, 0059, 0076, 0329, and 0331 thru 0486.

TIME OF COMPLIANCE: Replace bolt by 7 August 1998.

EXERCISE EXTREME CAUTION and avoid all non-essential flights until bolt has been replaced.

BACKGROUND: Lycoming has found hydrogen embrittlement in the current lot of crankshaft gear retaining bolts. This has caused two bolts to fail in service. The crankshaft gear drives both magnetos and the camshaft. Failure of the retaining bolt results in total loss of power without prior warning.

COMPLIANCE PROCEDURE:

1. Reference helicopter serial number and order one KI-139 kit (includes newly-manufactured bolt, various installation hardware, and instructions for replacing bolt without removing engine from helicopter).
2. Replace crankshaft gear retaining bolt per kit instructions.
3. Return removed bolt to RHC with helicopter and engine serial numbers.

Approximate Cost:

Parts: No charge if removed bolt returned to RHC.
(Order must include helicopter serial number and \$100 refundable deposit.)

Labor: To be performed by Lycoming Service Representative or by RHC Service Center with Lycoming reimbursement (not to exceed 8 manhours).

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