

R44

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SERVICE LETTER SL-28

DATE: 15 October 2004

TO: R44 Owners, Operators, and Service Centers

SUBJECT: D040-1 aft cowling assembly

ROTORCRAFT AFFECTED: R44 & R44 II helicopters

TIME OF COMPLIANCE: Discretionary

BACKGROUND: RHC has received reports of the D040-1 aft cowling's aft, lower aluminum panel cracking. To increase panel flexibility and thereby reduce cracking, later cowling assemblies deleted the stiffening flange between the upper and lower aft panels. Cutting off flange on earlier revision panels will help prevent cracking.

COMPLIANCE PROCEDURE:

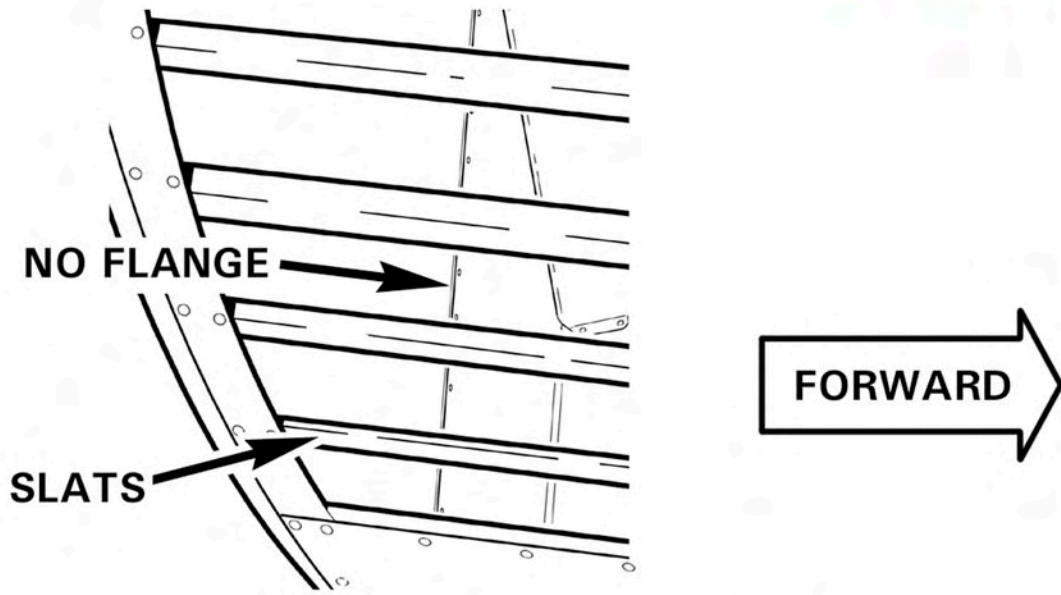
1. Refer to Figures on reverse. Look thru aft cowling's cooling air inlet slats and visually inspect lower aft panel for flange. If flange is present, remove aft cowling.
2. Carefully cut off flange. A powered, high-speed cut-off wheel may be used provided panels are protected from damage via suitably positioned pieces of sheet metal.
3. Blend sharp edges.
4. Inspect panel, especially at edges, for cracks. Minor cracks may be stop-drilled and repaired with doubler(s) in accordance U.S. FAA AC 43.13-1B.
5. Touch-up bare metal with zinc-chromate or epoxy primer.
6. Install cowling.
7. Make appropriate maintenance record entries.

APPROXIMATE COST:

Parts: None required.

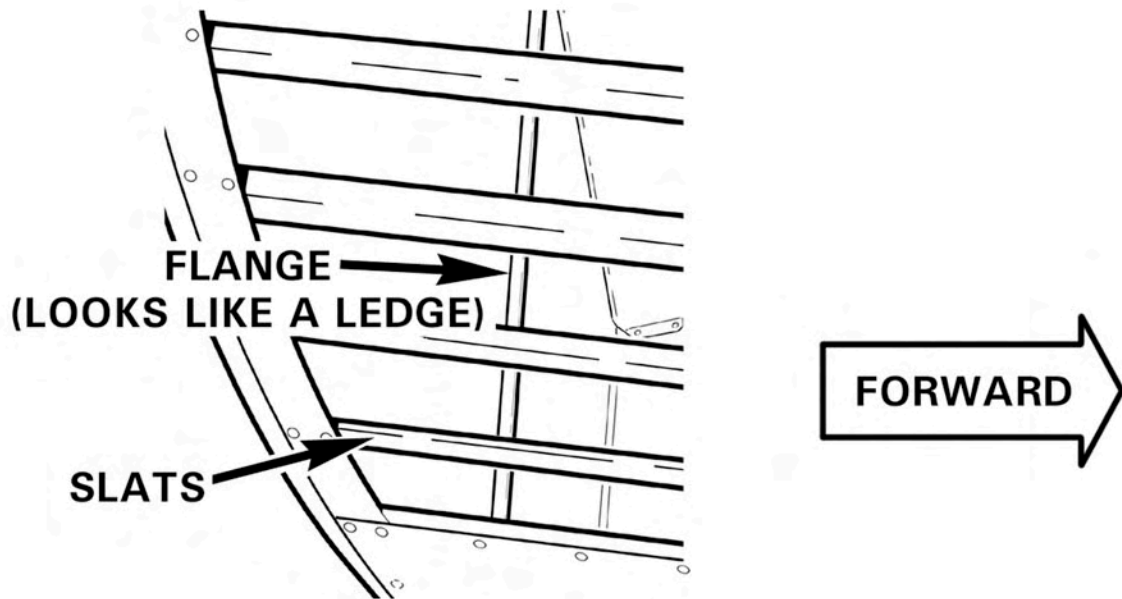
Labor: 1.5 man-hours.

-over-



CURRENT PRODUCTION

(VIEW LOOKING
DOWN)



AFFECTED TYPE

(VIEW LOOKING
DOWN)