



# SERVICE LETTER

DATE: 31 MARCH 2004  
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**SUBJECT:** CERTAIN HELICOPTERS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR FAA CERTIFICATE OF AIRWORTHINESS

**MODELS AFFECTED:** Model 369D, 369E, 369F/FF Helicopters

Recently, MD Helicopters, Inc. has seen Export Certificates of Airworthiness issued by a Foreign CAA on two helicopters serial numbers listed on the H3WE Type Certificate Data Sheet Note 4.c) “not eligible for an FAA Certificate of Airworthiness” list. This event has prompted MDHI to provide the following clarification in regards to this list.

The list was intended to highlight the fact that helicopter serial numbers on this list did not receive an initial FAA Certificate of Airworthiness due to some major deviation from the FAA Type Design. These derivative helicopters were never intended for civil operations and were sold to United States and Foreign Governments / Military that do not require a FAA Certificate of Airworthiness. Unique (non-FAA approved) military or customer furnished parts, wiring and modifications were installed in these helicopters. Simply removing and replacing certain parts on these helicopters will not make them eligible for a FAA Certificate of Airworthiness. Many of these helicopters were operated outside the surveillance of a Civil Airworthiness Authority, may not have received adequate maintenance and may have been flown outside the FAA approved RFM limitations and exposed to a flight spectrum beyond what has been approved by the FAA. Spare and used parts used on these helicopters should be considered “suspect” until fully inspected to determine its service history and current airworthiness condition before installation on a civil helicopter.

Parts or components used on these helicopters which are returned to MDHI for repair or overhaul will be segregated and tagged so that these parts are returned only to the owner operator who shipped them to MDHI. These parts or components will not be put into an exchange pool where they would migrate into the civil fleet nor will they receive FAA approval documents.

The Data Plates on these helicopters are different than those helicopters issued a Standard Airworthiness Certificate. The “Not Eligible” helicopter data plates reflect the name and location of the manufacturer and a serial number; but, do not show the FAA model designation, the Type Certificate number nor a Production Certificate Number.

Potential buyers of helicopters on this list should validate that these helicopters would meet the airworthiness standards of the country in which they intend to operate. MDHI Service Centers should refer potential buyers of these helicopters to call MDHI Customer Support Division for verification prior to entering into a contract to purchase or refurbish helicopters on the non-eligible list.

For further information in regards to this letter, contact Roger Carlin, Manager, Certification Department (480) 346-6231 or E-Mail [roger.carlin@mdhelicopters.com](mailto:roger.carlin@mdhelicopters.com).