



# SERVICE LETTER

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## MAIN ROTOR BLADE RETENTION BOLT

**MODELS AFFECTED:** MD900 helicopters serial numbers 900-00008 and subsequent with Part Number 900R3100001-103 main rotor blade retention bolts installed.

This Service Letter is issued as a notification to all operators to stop the annual disassembly, cleaning, and inspection of the MD900 main rotor blade retention bolts and to follow the installation and maintenance instructions of CSP-900RMM-2. This notification is necessary on the recommendation from the bolt manufacturer (Avibank Manufacturing, Inc.; CAGE 84256) and MDHI.

The disassembly and cleaning operation removes the dry-film lubrication and lets moisture get between the core bolt and the expanding collets, which can cause corrosion, pitting, and a start point for a fatigue crack. Numerous disassemblies and reassemblies increase the risk that the bolt can be incorrectly assembled. Incorrect assembly can cause incorrect operation of the bolt, and a loss of the integral locking feature of the bolt.

MDHI Service Bulletin SB900-092R2 and the FAA AD 2003-14-51, Main Rotor Blade, Retention Bolt Inspection, are one-time inspections. There is evidence that operators have done annual inspections of the retention bolts without continued maintenance action defined by MDHI and Avibank. Also, an alternate lubrication that is not approved to touch-up the bolts after inspection has been used. Only use approved lubricants in CSP-900RMM-2, 62-10-00, Main Rotor Blade Removal/Installation.

For further assistance, contact the Field Service Department at MDHI, Mesa, Arizona. Telephone 1-800-388-3378 or (480) 346-6387. DATAFAX: (480) 346-6813.

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