



SERVICE LETTER

DATE: 13 FEBRUARY 1998

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SERVICE LETTER AND BULLETIN DESIGNATIONS

Light Helicopter Division Technical Publications has restructured service information documents in anticipation of document electronic access and transmittal. The service document letterhead has changed to reflect the current document designation. A Technical Bulletin designation has been added to the existing Service Bulletins and Service Letters and the document designation criteria has been defined below.

Document identification by the compliance requirements must be used and not the paper or border color; since, color information in a document can not be verified with local printing capabilities using black and white fax, dot matrix or laser printers for service documents transmitted electronically.

Older documents have been scanned and in some cases the format rearranged to match the current format; however the document technical content has remained the same.

Individual divider tabs are available for Service Bulletins, Technical Bulletins and Service Letters and will be mailed with this letter and can also be ordered separately.

1. SERVICE INFORMATION DOCUMENT DESIGNATION

Service Bulletins are service documents containing technical procedures, generally affect aircraft safety, requires urgent attention by the operator, requires mandatory compliance and requires a record of accomplishment, and are issued for;

- special inspections/checks required to maintain the aircraft and/or components in safe operating condition (such as; special inspections/checks to detect a flaw or manufacturing error which could be one-time or performed until corrective action can be taken).
- reduction of existing life limits.
- to provide instructions and authority for inspection, repair, alteration, and/or rework of the helicopter and/or its components.
- to provide instructions and authority for retrofit of the helicopter or its components by modifying existing and/or incorporating new components.

Technical Bulletins are service documents containing technical procedures, not safety related, no compliance requirement (completed at owner/operator option), requires a record of accomplishment when instructed, and are issued for;

- providing instructions and authority for inspecting, repair, alteration, and/or rework of the helicopter and/or its components.
- providing instructions and authority for retrofit of the helicopter or its components by modifying existing and/or incorporating new components.

Service Letters are information documents which do not have a compliance requirement and are issued for;

- discussing field problems and highlight information already or scheduled to be incorporated in existing documentation.
- notifying operators of interchangeable or future spare part numbers of equipment which have no effect on aircraft safety, performance, maintainability and reliability.
- providing preliminary information of an impending Service Bulletin or Technical Bulletin.
- notifying operators of available or forthcoming modifications.
- notifying operators of changes in material finishes, protective coatings, etc.



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2. SERVICE INFORMATION NUMBERING EXPLANATION

The existing document numbering will remain as originally published to ensure traceability and verification of compliance; however, as the document is superseded by either a revision/reissue, its numbering will change to conform with current service document numbering. Service document numbering and type designation, during revision/reissue, will be based on the information designation criteria defined on the previous page.

NOTE: The document designation (SB, TB, SL) and the helicopter model designation are currently being used in the numbering prefix.

HELICOPTER MODEL DESIGNATION		SERVICE DOCUMENT		
FAA	Marketing	SB	TB	SL
MD-900	MD Explorer	SB900-	TB900-	SL900-