



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Aviation
Administration**

**Transport Airplane Directorate
Los Angeles Aircraft
Certification Office**

3960 Paramount Boulevard
Lakewood, California 90712-4137

OCT 10 2008

MD Helicopters, Inc
Attn: Mr. Roger H. Carlin
Manager, Certification Department
4555 East McDowell Road
Mesa, Arizona 85215-9734

In reply refer to: 120L-08-13

Reference: Letter 08-MDHI-013, dated October 9, 2008

Dear Mr. Carlin:

Approval of an Alternative Method of Compliance (AMOC) to
Airworthiness Directive (AD) 2008-18-52
MD Helicopters, Inc. Model 500N, 600N and MD900 Adapter Tubes for
Vertical Stabilizer Control System (VSCS)/Yaw Stability Augmentation System (YSAS)

We have reviewed the data submitted in the referenced letter requesting an AMOC to paragraph (e) of AD 2008-18-52. Paragraph (e) of AD 2008-18-52 mandates replacement of VSCS/YSAS adapter tubes within 45 days of the effective date of AD 2008-18-52, August 27, 2008. In the referenced letter you request an extension of the compliance date until December 15, 2008.

In the referenced letter you identified that an extension of the compliance date is necessary because there has been a high rejection rate during the manufacturing process of the replacement VSCS/YSAS adapter tubes.

We concur that the alternative compliance date provides an acceptable level of safety. The FAA approves the alternative compliance date of December 15, 2008 for the requirements of paragraph (e) of AD 2008-18-52. All provisions of AD 2008-18-52 that are not specifically referenced in the preceding sentence remain fully applicable and must be met.

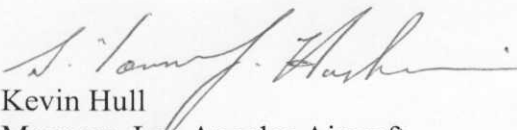
In accordance with FAA Order 8110.103 dated September 28, 2007, the following conditions apply:

- Acceptance of this approval for foreign-registered aircraft is the responsibility of the appropriate civil aviation authority of the state of registry.

- This approval is applicable to all MD Helicopters, Inc. Model 500N, 600N and MD900 rotorcraft.
- This approval is transferable with rotorcraft to other operators.
- Before using this AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector (PI) in the FAA Flight Standards District Office (FSDO), or lacking a PI, your local FSDO.
- This approval is subject to the following condition: If in the future the LAACO determines that this AMOC does not provide an acceptable level of safety, the LAACO may revoke or revise the terms of the AMOC following notice to the requester and a seven-day opportunity for the requester to comment on the revocation or proposed revision.

If you have any questions regarding this approval, please contact Mr. Eric Schrieber at (562) 627-5348.

Sincerely,

for 
Kevin Hull
Manager, Los Angeles Aircraft
Certification Office