AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE

This Airworthiness Directive (AD) is issued pursuant to Canadian Aviation Regulation (CAR) 521.427. No person shall conduct a take-off or permit a take-off to be conducted in an aircraft that is in their legal custody and control, unless the requirements of CAR 605.84 pertaining to ADs are met. Standard 625 - Aircraft Equipment and Maintenance Standards Appendix H provides information concerning alternative means of compliance (AMOC) to ADs.

Number:

CF-2018-16

Effective Date:

28 June 2018

ATA:

25

Type Certificate:

H-88, H-92, H-103, H-107

Subject:

Equipment / Furnishings – Seat Belt Comfort Clips Adverse Effect on Occupant Restraint

Applicability:

Bell Helicopter Textron Canada Limited (BHTCL) model 206, 206A, 206A-1, 206B, 206B-1, 206L, 206L-1, 206L-3, 206L-4, 222, 222B, 222U, 230, 407, 427, 429 and 430 helicopters, all serial numbers.

Compliance:

As indicated below, unless already accomplished.

Background:

BHTCL has noted that they have delivered seat belt comfort clips with some helicopters. These parts have also been sold as spare parts / accessories. These devices were intended to improve occupant comfort by reducing the tension of the shoulder harness.

The comfort clip may interfere with the shoulder harness inertia reel, preventing the harness from locking and result in injury to the occupant during an emergency landing. This AD requires removal of installed comfort clips and prohibits installation of the comfort clip to correct this unsafe condition.

Corrective Actions:

A. As of the effective date of this AD, it is prohibited for anyone to allow installation of a shoulder harness seat belt comfort clip on helicopters affected by this AD.

B. Within 25 hours air time or 10 days, whichever occurs first, from the effective date of this AD, inspect the crew and passenger shoulder harness seat belts (if present) in accordance with the applicable BHTCL Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) to determine if the comfort clips are installed. Table 1 of this AD lists the ASB applicable to each helicopter model.

C. Within 100 hours air time or 30 days, whichever occurs first, from the effective date of this AD:

   1. If comfort clips were found installed during Corrective Action B, remove them before further flight in accordance with the applicable BHTCL ASB.

   2. Inspect each shoulder harness seat belt for damage from a previously-installed comfort clip in accordance with the applicable BHTCL maintenance manual (MM). If there is any damage that exceeds allowable limits, before further flight, replace the shoulder harness seat belt. Table 1 of this AD lists the MM applicable to each helicopter model.

Table 1

Helicopter Model	Alert Service Bulletin			Maintenance Manual		
	Number	Revision	Publication Date	Number	Revision	Publication Date
206	206-15-133	A	5 February 2016	BHT-206A/B – Series-MM-3	14	30 April 2013
206A						
206A-1						
206B						
206B-1						
206L	206L-15-175	A	5 February 2016	206L-MM-1	40	17 December 2017
206L-1				206L1-MM-1	37	10 March 2017
206L-3				206L3-MM-3	10	20 July 2009
206L-4				206L4-MM-3	20	7 November 2014
222	222-15-112	Basic	11 January 2016	222/222B-MM-1	7	9 September 2011
222B						
222U				222U-MM-3	3	1 July 2000
230	230-15-46	Basic	11 January 2016	230-MM-3	7	31 March 1998
407	407-15-111	Basic	11 January 2016	407-MM-3	44	15 December 2015
427	427-15-39	Basic	11 January 2016	427-MM	18	27 October 2016
429	429-15-27	Basic	11 January 2016	429-MM-1	27	3 March 2017
430	430-15-56	Basic	11 January 2016	430-MM-3	20	20 September 2013

The use of later revisions of the ASBs listed in Table 1, which have been approved by the Chief, Continuing Airworthiness, Transport Canada, is acceptable for compliance with the requirements of this AD.

The use of later revisions of the MMs listed in Table 1 is acceptable for compliance with the requirements of this AD.

Authorization:

For the Minister of Transport,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Robert Farinas
Acting Chief, Continuing Airworthiness
Issued on 14 June 2018

Contact:

Ross McGowan, Continuing Airworthiness, Ottawa, telephone 1-888-663-3639, facsimile 613-996-9178 or e-mail AD-CN@tc.gc.ca or any Transport Canada Centre.