



SCHWEIZER SERVICE NOTICE

NOTICE NO. N-217
DATE: 29 JAN 1988
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MANDATORY

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SUBJECT: IDENTIFICATION OF CENTER FRAME AFT CLUSTER FITTINGS; INSTALLATION OF 269A4646-19 SUPPORT STRUT PLACARDS.

MODELS AFFECTED: PART I:

- All Model 269A, TH-55A, 269A-1, and 269B Helicopters.
- All Model 269C Helicopters with Serial Numbers prior to 1262.
- All Center frame aft cluster fittings in spares inventory at date of this Service Information Notice.

PART II:

- All Model 269A, TH-55A, 269A-1, and 269B Helicopters.
- Model 269C Helicopters with Serial Numbers of 0004 through 1289.

TIME OF COMPLIANCE: PART I:

- Shall be accomplished on installed affected fittings within next 25 hours of helicopter operation or within 60 days of issue date of this notice, whichever occurs first.
- Shall be accomplished on cluster fittings in spares inventory within three months of issue date of this notice or prior to placement into service, whichever occurs first.

PART II:

- Shall be accomplished on affected helicopters within next 25 hours of helicopter operation or within 60 days of issue date of this Service Information Notice, whichever occurs first.

REFERENCE: 269 Series - Basic HMI, Reissued 15 March 1982
269 Series - HMI Appendix B, Reissued 15 August 1982
HMI Temporary Revision R-10, Dated 29 January 1988
HMI Temporary Revision R-11, Dated 29 January 1988
FAA AD Note 76-18-01

PREFACE: A possibility exists that some 269A2234 (BSC) and 269A2235 (BSC) aft cluster fittings (BSC fittings) may have been installed on model 269C production helicopters having a serial number subsequent to 569, or misidentified and sold as spare parts. For this reason, it is imperative that identification of all aft cluster fittings (installed and in spares inventory) be conducted immediately. Since many 269A2234-3 and 269A2235-3 aft cluster fittings (-3 fittings) were cast with the BSC part numbers (269A2234 and 269A2235 without dash numbers), it is essential that identification be made by a dimensional check.

Part I of this Service Information Notice provides instructions for a dimensional check of the cluster fitting's attachment lugs for the tailboom support strut. Performing this dimensional check will allow for positive identification of the cluster fitting part number (BSC or -3). All Installed aft cluster fittings which are positively identified as being BSC fittings must be dye penetrant inspected for cracks on a periodic basis as specified by HMI Temporary Revision R-11 and FAA AD 76-18-01.

Part II of this Service Information Notice provides instructions to install NO STEP placards on the tailboom support struts. These placards are currently being installed on Model 269C Production helicopters and have been enclosed with this notice for installation on earlier Model 269 Series Helicopters.

Failure to identify aft cluster fittings in accordance with Part I of this notice could result in improper inspection practices of aft cluster fittings. Failure to properly inspect aft cluster fittings could result in separation of the tailboom support strut from the helicopter center frame, which may lead to loss of control of the helicopter and subsequent personal injury or death.

PART I - IDENTIFICATION OF AFT CLUSTER FITTINGS.

TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT

DESCRIPTION

SOURCE

DIAL/VERNIER CALIPERS

COMMERCIAL

PROCEDURE

- a. Using a suitable measuring device, measure the thickness of the cluster fitting attachment lugs for tailboom support strut. (Refer to Figure 1.)

NOTE

The tailboom strut attachment clevis on BSC fittings (269A2234 (LH) and 269A2235 (RH)) will have a dimensional thickness of 0.070 to 0.100-inch. The attachment lugs on the -3 fittings (269A2234-3 and 269A2235-3) will have a thickness of 0.115 to 0.155-inch.

- b. Identify the cluster fitting by comparing the dimensions measured in step a. (above) with those provided in the preceding NOTE.

- c. Remove from stock (spares inventory) and return to SAC all cluster fittings identified as being BSC fittings.
- d. For -3 fittings in spares inventory (identified in step b., above) attach a tag which states either "269A2234-3 in accordance with N-217" (LH) or "269A2235-3 in accordance with N-217" (RH), as applicable.
- e. For installed fittings, record proper part number (either BSC or -3) in Compliance Record and in FAA AD Record of Helicopter Log Book.

CAUTION

Observe and comply with the following precautions before continuing:

- INSTALLED CLUSTER FITTINGS WHICH HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED (STEP B, ABOVE) AS BEING BSC FITTINGS (PN 269A2234 OR 269A2235) MUST BE INSPECTED ON A PERIODIC BASIS AS SPECIFIED BY HMI TEMPORARY REVISION R-11 AND FAA AD 76-18-01.
 - CERTAIN INSTALLED CLUSTER FITTINGS WHICH HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS BEING -3 FITTINGS (PN 269A2234-3 AND 269A2235-3) MUST BE INSPECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SERVICE INFORMATION NOTICES N-220 AND N-221.
- f. Notify SAC Manager Technical Services at Product Support Department (phone no. (607) 739-3821 ext. 303, or 739-5398), if either of the following two conditions are found:
 - A 269A2235 aft cluster fitting (basic fitting) is found installed on a Model 269C Helicopter having a serial number subsequent to 499.
 - A 269A2234 aft cluster fitting (basic fitting) is found installed on a Model 269C Helicopter having a serial number subsequent to 569.
 - g. Record compliance with Part I of this Service Information Notice in Compliance Record of Helicopter Log Book.

PART II - INSTALLATION OF 269A4646-19 SUPPORT STRUT PLACARDS.

PARTS LIST

<u>NOMENCLATURE</u>	<u>SAC PART NO.</u>	<u>QTY.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>
Placard, NO STEP	269A4646-19	2	SAC

PROCEDURE

CAUTION

DO NOT USE THE TAILBOOM SUPPORT STRUTS AS A STEP WHEN PERFORMING MAINTENANCE OR PREFLIGHT INSPECTIONS ON THE HELICOPTER'S MAIN ROTOR AND CONTROL SYSTEMS. TO DO SO, MAY INDUCE SEVERE LOADS ON THE CLUSTER FITTING ATTACHMENT LUGS (FOR SUPPORT STRUTS) AND CAUSE THE LUGS TO CRACK.

NOTE

Later model 269C helicopters incorporate NO STEP placards on the tailboom support struts. Identical placards have been enclosed with this notice for field installation on earlier Model 269 Series Helicopters.

- a. If the tailboom support struts do not incorporate NO STEP placards, install the enclosed placards as follows:

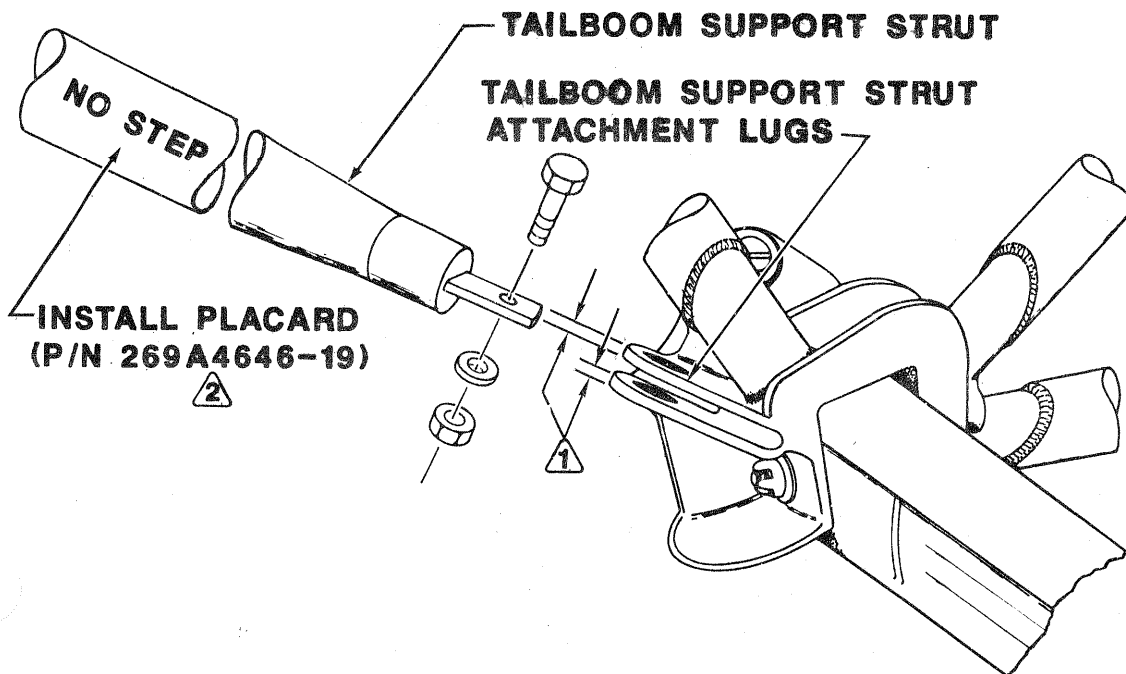
NOTE

If white letter placards are required for visibility purposes, contact SAC Product Support Department (Phone no. (607) 739-3821 ext. 303 or 739-5398).

- (1) Thoroughly clean upper surface of support strut where placard is to be installed. (Refer to Figure 1.)
 - (2) Peel protective backing off from placard and install placard on strut.
 - (3) Repeat steps (1) and (2) for other strut.
- b. Record Compliance with Part II of this Service Information Notice in Compliance Record of Helicopter Log Book.

WEIGHT AND BALANCE DATA

Weight and balance data not affected.



RIGHT SIDE CLUSTER FITTING SHOWN

NOTES:

- ① LUG THICKNESS WILL BE 0.070 TO 0.100 INCH ON BASIC FITTINGS (P/N 269A2234 AND 269A2235). ALL -3 FITTINGS (P/N 269A2234-3 AND 269A2235-3) WILL HAVE A LUG THICKNESS OF 0.115 TO 0.155 INCH. (REFER TO PART I.)**

- ② INSTALL PLACARD ON STRUT (IN CLEAR VIEW) AT APPROXIMATELY 8 TO 10 INCHES FROM CENTER LINE OF STRUT LOWER END FITTING ATTACHMENT HOLE (BOTH STRUTS). (REFER TO PART II.)**

FIGURE 1. IDENTIFICATION OF CLUSTER FITTING AND PLACARD INSTALLATION (TYPICAL BOTH SIDES)

