



SCHWEIZER SERVICE INFORMATION LETTER

Letter No. L-139

Date: 2 Jan 1987

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TO: All owners and operators of 269 Series Helicopters.

SUBJECT: CLEANING OF ELASTOMERIC DAMPERS.

MODELS AFFECTED: All 269 Series Helicopters equipped with 269A1290-1
Elastomeric Dampers.

A number of the subject elastomeric dampers have been removed from service because they were reported to cause vibration in helicopter airframe.

Two of the subject elastomeric dampers were recently removed from model 269 (TH-55A) helicopters and returned to the manufacturer for a detailed analysis. Analysis of the parts, revealed underbond corrosion of the center aluminum component. A quantity of liquid found in one of the returned dampers was analyzed and determined to contain representatives of a naptha solvent. It was then concluded that the dampers were probably exposed to a naptha based solvent which destroyed the elastomeric bond. This allowed moisture to enter the damper and corrode the inner components.

Cleaning of the elastomeric dampers is to be limited to cleaning using pure soap and water; detergent soaps are not allowed. Dampers should not be subjected to oils, hydrocarbons, or cleaning solvents. The inspection procedure, provided in Basic HMI, Section 8, should continue to be used to determine damper serviceability on a periodic basis. It should be noted that both the visual criteria for bond and the deflection test must be met in order to have an acceptable part.

The information given in this Service Information Letter is to be considered as part of the HMI and will be incorporated at the next scheduled revision.

REFERENCE SHEET

SERVICE INFORMATION NOTICE AND LETTERS

ACTION REFERENCE: Refer to Service Information Letter L-139 when performing maintenance to, or inspections of main rotor blade elastomeric dampers.

HMI REFERENCE: Insert this sheet in 269 Series Basic HMI, Section 8, page 8-24A.

This Reference Sheet shall be kept as part of the manual until the data can be incorporated at the next revision of 269 Series Basic HMI. (See Service Information Summary, page i of Basic HMI.)