



**SCHWEIZER
SERVICE
LETTER**

L-158
29 Apr 1993

SUBJECT: IMPROPER MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES IN INSTALLATION OF THE 269A2324 SERIES TAIL BOOM SUPPORT FITTING (SADDLE FITTING) WHICH RESULTS IN A HAZARDOUS FLIGHT CONDITION

MODELS AFFECTED: 269A, TH-55A, 269A1, 269B, and 269C Helicopters

It has come to the attention of Schweizer Aircraft Corporation (SAC) that one and reportedly other 269A2324 series tail boom support fittings have been installed using standard AN bolts instead of the proper fasteners. Bolts are not an acceptable substitution for the specified fasteners.

Any 269A2320 series tail boom assemblies which have the 269A2324 series tail boom support fitting installed with bolts must be removed from service immediately.

The original issue of the Handbook of Maintenance Instruction date 15 March 1982 provided specific instructions on how to replace a saddle fitting and specified the correct fasteners to be used. This information was superseded by Revision R-42 dated 8 October 1990. This revision clearly identifies the proper fasteners to be used.

Any substitution of bolts for the specified fasteners in this installation renders the tail boom unairworthy. FAR 43.13 requires the use of the manufacturing maintenance manual when performing maintenance on an aircraft. SAC strongly recommends that all maintenance organizations and personnel review Federal Air Regulation 43.13 and the introduction to Advisory Circular AC 43.13-1A. When performing maintenance inspections, repairs, or replacement of parts on the 269 series helicopter, all applicable maintenance instructions and inspections must be complied with.

SCHWEIZER AIRCRAFT CORP.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David J. Roemer".

David J. Roemer, Group Manager

Helicopter Program Offices