SERVICE INFORMATION LETTER

SERVICE INFORMATION LETTER NO. 0089

Date: January 22, 1979

Subject: Inspection of Main Rotor Blade Leading Edge Tape

Models: F-28A, 280, F-28C, 280C

Effectivity: All S/Ns with Blade Tape

In coastal areas and wherever conditions of high humidity are encountered, it is very important to protect the main rotor blade leading edge from corrosion by covering the outer eight to ten feet or more with polyurethane tape, available from The Enstrom Customer Service Corporation and described earlier in Enstrom Service Letter No. 0024.

Abrasion of the tape in service can limit its life to 200 or 300 hours. However, if the helicopter is operated in rain, tape life can be considerably shortened. In some cases, the tape has partially separated from the blade, causing a very rough rotor system.

It is recommended that the leading edge be inspected daily as a preflight item, looking for openings or holes in the tapes, air bubbles under the tape, and separation areas along the edge of the tape where it is no longer adhered to the blade. Whenever evidence of separation appears, the tape should be stripped off and replaced. To minimize the rotor roughness that can occur when tape lifts or separates from the blade, it may be applied in short lengths of 9 to 12 inches.