THE ENSTROM HELICOPTER CORPORATION
TWIN COUNTY AIRPORT, P.O. BOX 490, MENOMINEE, MICHIGAN 49858

SERVICE INFORMATION LETTER

DATE: May 8, 2007

1. SUBJECT: Tail Rotor Thrust Bearings, P/N ECD002-11

2. MODEL: F-28C, F-28F, 280C, 280F, and 280FX

3. EFFECTIVITY: All serial numbers

4. BACKGROUND:

Since January, 2005, a large number of tail rotor thrust bearings, P/N ECD002-11, have been removed from service because of premature wear that exhibits itself as a dead spot/notchiness during tail rotor control inputs. The dead spot/notchiness usually is exhibited during a lower power approach and while attempting to land the aircraft. This premature wear appears to only occur on aircraft manufactured after November/December, 2004; however, it has not been reported on all the aircraft manufactured since that time period. It also has occurred on aircraft that have had the tail rotor bearings, ECD002-11, replaced since November/December, 2004. Again, the premature wear has not been reported in all the aircraft on which the bearings were changed.

Enstrom is working with the bearing manufacturer to determine the cause/solution for the premature wear. As an interim step, Enstrom is issuing this Service Information Letter recommending that tail rotor thrust bearings be rotated and lubricated after approximately every ten flight hours to help prevent the premature wear.

5. COMPLIANCE:

Enstrom recommends rotating and lubricating the tail rotor thrust bearings, P/N ECD002-11, after approximately every ten flight hours in accordance with (IAW) the maintenance procedure in paragraph 5.1.

NOTE

For aircraft that have not exhibited the dead spot/notchiness in the tail rotor controls, Enstrom recommends that the procedures in paragraph 5.1. be performed during the normal 50 hour service interval.

5.1. MAINTENANCE PROCEDURE:

NOTE

Perform all maintenance in accordance with the applicable maintenance manual for the aircraft model and engine model

A. Disconnect the pitch change links from the tail rotor assembly.

B. Lubricate the tail rotor blade and grip assemblies. Purge lubricate the blade and grip assemblies at the normal 50 hour service interval.

C. Rotate (one complete rotation on the feathering axis) the tail rotor blade and grip assemblies eleven times.

D. Lubricate the tail rotor blade and grip assemblies again.

E. Reconnect the pitch change links to the tail rotor assembly.

5.2. PARTS:

Description	Part Number	Quantity
Cotter Pin	AN381-2-8 or MS24665-151	2 Each
Nut	F12NE4753-048 or MS17825-4	As required

6. SPECIAL TOOLS: N/A

7. MAN-HOURS: .3 Man-hours.

8. WARRANTY: N/A

9. WEIGHT CHANGE: N/A

10. LOG BOOK ENTRY: As required for maintenance actions.

11. REPETITIVE TREATMENT:

Enstrom recommends repeating the maintenance procedures in paragraph 5.1. after approximately every ten flight hours.