



SERVICE DIRECTIVE BULLETIN

SERVICE DIRECTIVE BULLETIN 0087

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DATE: November 19, 1996

1. SUBJECT: Mandatory Serialization of Drag Links
2. MODEL: F28C, 280C, F28F, 280F, and 280FX
3. EFFECTIVITY:

F28C and 280C: All serial numbers currently or previously certified in Restricted Category for agricultural and/or external load operations up to 2600 lbs. gross weight.

F28F: All serial numbers prior to S/N 732 currently or previously certified in Restricted Category for agricultural and/or external load operations up to 2600 lbs. gross weight, all serial numbers prior to S/N 732 modified according to Enstrom Drawing 28-100015 for Normal Category operations up to 2600 lbs. gross weight, and S/N 732 and subsequent.

280F: All serial numbers prior to S/N 1517 currently or previously certified in Restricted Category for agricultural and/or external load operations up to 2600 lbs. gross weight, all serial numbers prior to S/N 1517 modified according to Enstrom Drawing 28-100015 for Normal Category operations up to 2600 lbs. gross weight, and S/N 1517 and subsequent.

280FX: All serial numbers.

4. BACKGROUND:

The drag links, P/N 28-14283-1, are life limited components when installed on helicopters certified to operate at 2600 pounds gross weight. These drag links are required by FAA Regulation to be marked with serial numbers.

Investigation revealed that the retirement life limit on the drag link was established before the regulatory requirement for serialization. As a result, the requirement for permanent marking was not incorporated into the manufacturing process for the drag links. Enstrom has been marking the drag links with serial numbers (EC-1 through EC-449) but the methods used cannot be considered permanent in accordance with the applicable regulation.

5. COMPLIANCE:

Within the next 25 hours time in service, comply with the requirements of this paragraph.

5.1. Review the helicopter maintenance records for drag link service history and/or drag link component record cards and visually inspect the drag links for serial number markings.

5.2. If the drag links have acid-etch or "magic marker" serial numbers or the serial numbers can be determined by the maintenance records and/or component record cards, contact Enstrom Customer Service for replacement foil identification labels and component record cards. Provide the helicopter serial number and the serial numbers of the drag links.

5.3. If the drag links have vibro-etched serial numbers (Vibro-etched by Enstrom), verify that component record cards are available in the aircraft maintenance records.

5.4. Remove from service any drag links for which the serial number cannot be determined by visual inspection or review of the aircraft maintenance records and/or component record cards.

5.5. Remove from service any drag links with 13,750 or more hours time in service that are installed on helicopters listed in paragraph 3 of this Service Directive Bulletin.

NOTE

Drag links removed from service on aircraft effected by this Service Directive Bulletin due to accumulation of 13,750 hours or lack of serial number identification and service history are considered unairworthy and cannot be installed on aircraft that have an "on condition" service life for the drag links as listed on the Type Certificate Data Sheet.

NOTE

Any operational time on drag links installed on aircraft certified in any of the 2600 lb. gross weight categories requires retirement of the drag links at 13,750 hours regardless of subsequent operation at lesser gross weight categories

- 6. SPECIAL TOOLS: None
- 7. MAN-HOURS: 1 Man-hour
- 8. WARRANTY: Per Enstrom Warranty Policy
- 9. WEIGHT CHANGE: None
- 10. LOG BOOK ENTRY:

Enter compliance with this Service Directive Bulletin, enter the serial numbers of the drag links in the maintenance records, and initiate component record cards for the drag links.

- 11. REPETITIVE INSPECTIONS: None