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# SERVICE INFORMATION LETTER

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SERVICE INFORMATION LETTER NO. 0194

DATE: June 24, 2025

1. SUBJECT: Tail Rotor Transmission (Gearbox), Premature Gear Wear
2. MODEL: F-28A, 280, F-28C, F-28C-2, F-28C-2R, 280C, F-28F, F-28F-R, 280F, and 280FX
3. EFFECTIVITY: Any helicopter S/N that is equipped with a tail rotor gearbox S/N that matches any of the S/Ns listed in Table 1.  
  
Any stock/spare/inventory tail rotor gearbox S/N that matches any of the S/Ns listed in Table 1.

## 4. BACKGROUND:

Enstrom has received several tail rotor gearboxes that were removed from service due to tail rotor chip indications. The gearboxes, which were returned from two operators, had not yet reached TBO. A preliminary inspection of the gearboxes revealed premature wear of the gears. The gears have been traced back to the same manufacturer.

This Service Information Letter (SIL) is intended to provide owner/operators with the following:

- A serial number listing of the tail rotor gearboxes assembled with gears sourced from the same manufacturer
  - Reiteration of the methods prescribed in the maintenance procedures to ensure detection for premature gear wear
- ## 5. COMPLIANCE:
- 5.1 Identify the S/N of the tail rotor gearbox by locating the S/N engraved or laser etched on the left side of the tail rotor gearbox housing (see Figure 1).
  - 5.2 Compare the tail rotor gearbox S/N with the S/Ns listed in Table 1.

5.3 If the gearbox S/N is listed in Table 1:

5.3.1 Check helicopter maintenance records for tail chip indications and/or the accumulation of metal flakes on the magnetic plug or in drained transmission oil.

5.3.2 Report any findings to Enstrom:

Aircraft S/N \_\_\_\_\_ Aircraft Total Time \_\_\_\_\_

Tail Rotor Gearbox S/N \_\_\_\_\_

Hours Time-in-Service for each Tail Chip Indication Occurrence \_\_\_\_\_

Owner \_\_\_\_\_

Point of Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

5.4 If the tail rotor gearbox S/N is not listed in Table 1, proceed to the next step.

5.5 To ensure operational performance and safety, continue to perform the recommended tail rotor transmission system servicing schedule and periodic inspection schedule in accordance with the applicable F-28/280 maintenance manual. For example, applicable references from the F-28F/280F Series Maintenance Manual include the following:

5.5.1 Tail rotor transmission servicing and flushing procedures: Paragraph 4-14 through Paragraph 4-16.1.

5.5.2 Periodic inspection checklists: Paragraph 4-51, Step 8; and Paragraph 10-5, Step D.

5.5.3 Tail rotor chip indication procedures: Paragraph 4-62, Step B.

6. PARTS: N/A

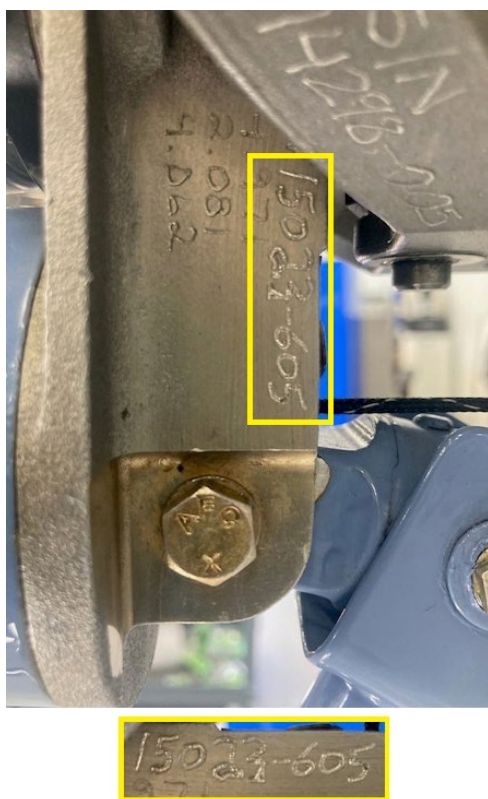
7. SPECIAL TOOLS OR EQUIPMENT: N/A

8. MAN-HOURS: N/A

9. WARRANTY: Per Enstrom policy

10. WEIGHT CHANGE: N/A

11. LOG BOOK ENTRY: As necessary for maintenance actions.
12. REPETITIVE INSPECTIONS: N/A



Tail Rotor Gearbox S/N 15023-605

Figure 1. Location of Tail Rotor Gearbox S/N Identification – Example

Table 1. Gearbox Serial Number

|             |              |            |
|-------------|--------------|------------|
| 004-055-76H | 13-339-86T   | 14364-556  |
| 04-241-83T  | 13-342-86T   | 15023-584  |
| 005-074-76H | 016-364-88T  | 15023-586  |
| 06-136-76H  | 19-539-80H   | 18102-062  |
| 007-194-77H | 20-419-89T   | 19176-083  |
| 09-270-85T  | 23-471-90T   | 19176-085  |
| 10-302-85T  | 24-494-91T   | 19232-0091 |
| 12-328-86T  | 24-502-91T   | 19232-0092 |
| 12-329-86T  | 35-030-99T   | 19291-0097 |
|             | 045-0133-05T | WSNX0193   |