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RotorWay International

Date: June 15, 2010

To: All Talon owners and owners that have made conversion to the tail rotor drive shaft.

Subject: Mandatory Compliance Bulletin M26
THIS BULLETIN IS MANDATORY AND MUST BE COMPLIED WITH

HISTORY:
Recently an incident occurred due to the loss of tail rotor control. A hard landing resulted without injury. The Talon aircraft has a shaft driven tail rotor system. The tail rotor belt transfers power to the tail rotor gearbox from the secondary. A spring loaded tensioner controls the tension of the belt system. If the belt is under tensioned or the idler arm is to far extended it is possible for the idler arm to go over center. This could cause slipping of the belt or the belt could roll off of the pulley.

ACTION:
RotorWay International is sending replacement tensioner arms at no cost to the owners of the Talon Aircraft, and to the tail rotor conversion aircraft. The new arm will have an additional stop to prevent the possibility of an over center problem. As long as the tension is correct and the tensioner arm distances are within limits, the tensioner arm can be changed when practical. The new stop will add an additional safety factor to the belt tensioner.

Refer to the enclosed drawings and photos for step by step instructions. The following procedures are to help clarify the adjustment. Please update your maintenance manual by adding the enclosed pages. Complete instructions are available and will be provided with the new tensioner arm. It is important to check condition and tension of belts before every flight. Preflight checks are essential to the continued safe operation of your helicopter.

The new arm can be identified by a forward stop on the front side (preventing the arm from going over center) and the three adjustment holes for the tensioner pulley.

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Photo #16

When correct belt tension is set (be sure the tensioner is held against the stop by the belt), mark the center of the pulleys bolt below on airframe.

Photo #17

Remove tail rotor belt. With pulley extended straight out, mark the center of the pulleys bolt. Minimum distance is 3/4" between lines. If less than 3/4" move pulley bolt to outer mounting hole. After replacing belt recheck tension per photo #15 and be sure pulley does not touch the frame.