

2010-18-52 MD HELICOPTERS, INC.: Directorate Identifier 2010-SW-078-AD. Supersedes AD 2010-18-51, Directorate Identifier 2010-SW-076-AD.

Applicability: Model MD900 helicopters, with lower main rotor hub (hub), part number 900R2101008-103, -105, and -107, installed, certificated in any category.

Compliance: Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously.

To detect a crack in the hub and prevent the failure of the hub and subsequent loss of control of the helicopter, do the following:

(a) Within 4 hours time-in-service, visually inspect the hub for a crack, paying particular attention to the area of the 5 flex beam bolt hole locations. If you find a crack, before further flight, replace the hub with an airworthy hub.

(b) If you find a crack, within 10 days, report the finding to Roger Durbin, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, Los Angeles Aircraft Certification Office, Airframe Branch, e-mail Roger.Durbin@faa.gov or fax (562) 627-5210. Reporting requirements have been approved by the OMB and assigned OMB control number 2120-0056.

(c) To request a different method of compliance or a different compliance time for this AD, follow the procedures in 14 CFR 39.19. Contact the Manager, Los Angeles Aircraft Certification Office, FAA, ATTN: Roger Durbin, Aviation Safety Engineer, Airframe Branch, 3960 Paramount Blvd., Lakewood, California 90712, telephone (562) 627-5233, fax (562) 627-5210, for information about previously approved alternative methods of compliance.

(d) The Joint Aircraft System/Component (JASC) Code is 6220: Main Rotor Head.

(e) Emergency AD 2010-18-52, issued August 24, 2010, becomes effective upon receipt.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Roger Durbin, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, Los Angeles Aircraft Certification Office, Airframe Branch, 3960 Paramount Blvd., Lakewood, California 90712, telephone (562) 627-5233, fax (562) 627-5210.