



A Textron Company

## **INFORMATION LETTER**

**GEN-24-159**

9 September 2024

**TO: All owners and operators of Bell helicopters**

**SUBJECT: SOLDERING OF PITOT TUBE CONNECTORS**

Bell receives occasional reports of pitot heater system malfunctions due to disconnection of the wires from the receptacle connector at the pitot tube. It has been determined that the type of solder currently used could melt during prolonged operation at elevated temperatures, causing a disconnection of the wires from the connector.

This Information Letter is to inform owners/operators that it is authorized to use the higher temperature solder SN10PB88AG02 (C-599) to repair pitot tube connections and mitigate the risk of solder melting causing a pitot heater system malfunction. The solder SN10PB88AG02 that can be procured through Bell Spares under P/N 1490-00004-00 is an industry standard Rosin Mildly Activated (RMA) flux cored wire solder having a melting range between 268°C and 299°C. The Electrical Standard Practices Manual (BHT-ELEC-SPM) Chapter 4 has been revised to include instructions specific to pitot tube connector soldering using the higher temperature solder.

Operators are reminded to adhere to the ambient temperature recommendations associated with operation of the pitot tube heaters.

For any questions regarding this letter, please contact:

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