


## INFORMATION LETTER

**DATE:** November 15, 2006

**No.:**  **AB47-06-002**  
**AB206-06-004**  
**AB204-06-002**  
**AB205A1-06-002**  
**AB212 SERIES-06-004**  
**AB412-06-003**

**TO :** All AB47; AB206; AB204; AB205A1;  
AB212; AB412 Helicopters  
Operators.

**SUBJECT :** Interchangeability of Agusta Bell and  
Bell Helicopter parts

**HELICOPTERS AFFECTED :** All AB47; AB206; AB204; AB205A1;  
AB212; AB412 civil registered  
aircraft

Agusta is the TC holder of a number of products under a Licence agreement with BHT. Under the auspices of the licence agreement, Bell and Agusta continuously exchange design data and therefore the Agusta design data set is substantially in line with the Bell one; some minor differences are only due to specific customisations.

As far as the design is concerned, as already proved to the Authority, parts manufactured under the Agusta design data set are fully equivalent to those parts manufactured under the Bell design data set having the same identification number (P/N).

Agusta is also fully in line with Bell for the management of the continued airworthiness occurrences due to design aspects. Continued airworthiness occurrences identified as deriving from manufacturing aspects are evaluated on a case by case basis.

Depending on the circumstances, Agusta also purchased and continuously purchase parts directly manufactured under Bell responsibility for the manufacture of new aircraft and for spares. In those cases parts are traced and managed as original Agusta parts.

To guarantee that the original Bell manufactured parts configuration is in accordance with the AB products type design, a Quality Assurance Production Plan between Agusta and Bell has been established.

Original Bell Helicopters components are therefore applicable to Agusta-Bell products when supplied or authorized by Agusta only.

On the other hand Agusta produced parts share no FAA or MOT certification privilege with Bell furnished parts. Bell Helicopter Textron, for the specific purpose of complying with the U.S. and Canadian law, do not authorise Agusta components to be installed on U.S. or Canadian Type certificated and registered products, even though the part numbers are the same.

For the same reason, Agusta components cannot be installed on BHT aircraft registered into the EASA Countries, being Agusta not listed as a Bell Helicopter Textron supplier.

For helicopters not under the authority of FAA; MOT or EASA, the Operators shall follow the policy defined by the Civil Aviation Authorities having jurisdiction on the aircraft and over the area of operations.

This letter intends to stress the attention of the Operators on the fact that any deviation from the configuration approved on the TCDS and subsequent approvals (STCs or manufacturer approved changes, for example) is not allowed. This includes installation of "similar" parts manufactured by vendors that are not part of the OEM vendor list. (Exceptions to this could include parts manufactured and approved under STCs).

In any case the Operators are requested to strictly maintain the approved configuration of their aircraft, by avoiding any non approved mix of parts from different vendors.

AGUSTA  
Vice President Customer Support

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Marco SALA