

# Continuing Airworthiness Notice 27-023



## Schweizer/Hughes 269C Helicopters – Main Rotor Longitudinal Pitch Mixer Bellcrank

22 June 2023

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Issued by the Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand in the interests of aviation safety. A Continuing Airworthiness Notice (CAN) is intended to alert, educate, and make recommendations to the aviation community. A CAN contains information and guidance about an airworthiness concern that does not meet the criteria for an Airworthiness Directive (AD). The inspections and practices described in this CAN must still be carried out in accordance with the applicable NZCAR Parts 21, 43 and 91.

CAN numbering is by ATA Chapter followed by a sequential number for the next CAN in that ATA Chapter.

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### **Applicability:**

All Schweizer/Hughes 269C Helicopters.

### **Purpose:**

The CAA has received a report of an operator finding a cracked main rotor longitudinal pitch mixer bellcrank P/N 269A7519 on a Hughes 269C helicopter (For the location of the affected P/N refer to: IPC 4-16-18 and Figure 1 below in this CAN).

### **Background:**

During a daily pre-flight inspection of the aircraft the pilot noticed a crack in the longitudinal pitch mixer bellcrank.

A subsequent inspection by an engineer could not identify any indication of damage, or corrosion which may have initiated the crack.

The affected aircraft had 18436 hours TTIS. However, it is not clear if the defective bellcrank had been installed since new.

### **Recommendation**

Operators are advised to pay particular attention to the flight control linkages when carrying out pre-flight inspections as required by the Pilot's Flight Manual.

Maintenance providers should thoroughly investigate any defects found during the scheduled inspection of helicopter flight control system/linkages.



Figure 1 - Cracked longitudinal pitch mixer bellcrank.