

**R44 SERVICE BULLETIN SB-78**

**DATE:** 20 December 2010

**TO:** R44 and R44 II owners, operators, and maintenance personnel

**SUBJECT:** Bladder Fuel Tank Retrofit

**ROTORCRAFT AFFECTED:** R44 helicopters S/N 0001 thru 2064, and R44 II helicopters S/N 10001 thru 12890, unless previously accomplished.

**TIME OF COMPLIANCE:** As soon as practical, but no later than 31 December 2014.

**BACKGROUND:** This bulletin requires R44 helicopters with all-aluminum fuel tanks to be retrofitted with bladder-type tanks. In addition to a factory retrofit program, a field kit is now available. To improve the R44 fuel system's resistance to a post-accident fuel leak, this retrofit must be performed as soon as possible.

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**COMPLIANCE PROCEDURE:**

Order one KI-196-1 kit for R44, or one KI-196-2 kit for R44 II, from RHC Customer Service and install per kit instructions. Kit includes main and auxiliary bladder tanks, installation hardware, hoses, and instructions. Kit instructions also available online at [www.robinsonheli.com/servelib.htm](http://www.robinsonheli.com/servelib.htm).

Alternately, return helicopter to RHC for factory retrofit (ref. R44 SL-36).

Note: Retrofit requires substantial sheet-metal work. Paint refinishing for aesthetics may be desired.

**Approximate Cost:**

Parts: \$6800 for KI-196-1 or -2 kit, if ordered by 31 December 2011. Reference helicopter model and serial number. Fuel tanks are supplied painted white.

Labor: Approximately 40 man-hours (paint refinishing not included).

Note: Normal Service Center discounts do not apply. (Refer to RHC memo dated 28 May 1997.)