

# Continuing Airworthiness Notice – 28-010



## Robinson R22 Helicopter Fuel Tanks

2 February 2018

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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 non-regulatory information and guidance 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 Robinson R22 helicopters fitted with aluminium fuel tanks.

### Purpose:

This Continuing Airworthiness Notice (CAN) is prompted by the latest revision of Robinson Helicopter Company (RHC) R22 Service Bulletin SB-109A “Bladder Fuel Tank Retrofit” dated 15 January 2018.

The intent of the CAN is to ensure that all operators/maintainers of Robinson R22 helicopters are aware of RHC SB-109A pertaining to bladder fuel tanks.

### Background:

RHC SB-109A requires operators/maintainers of Robinson R22 helicopters to embody bladder-type fuel tanks to improve the fuel system’s resistance to a post-accident fuel leak.

The fuel system design features introduced by RHC SB-109A on Robinson R22 helicopters increase the level of safety in the event of a survivable crash by either decreasing the likelihood, or delaying the onset of a post-crash fire. The improved features minimize crash-induced fuel leaks and their contact with potential fuel ignition sources, both during and after the crash, and increase the time occupants have available to egress before a post-crash fire could become critical.

RHC require compliance with SB-109A as soon as practical, but no later than next 2200-hour overhaul, 12 year inspection, or 15 January 2020, whichever occurs first. The SB provides information on a discount kit and a rebate available by way of incentive to accomplish the SB.

### Recommendation:

The CAA strongly recommends that all operators/maintainers of Robinson R22 helicopters comply with the requirements in RHC SB-109A, dated 15 January 2018.

### Reference Documentation:

- ATSB Occurrence Investigation [200000125](#).
- FAA SAIB [SW-17-31](#) Fuel System.
- CASA [AWB 28-017](#) issue 1 – 1 February 2018 Robinson R22 Fuel Tanks.
- Robinson Helicopter Company SB-109A, dated 15 January 2018.

### Enquiries:

All other enquires regarding this CAN should be made to:

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