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Serving the Worldwide Helicopter Industry

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2009 rotor&wing BUYER'S GUIDE



EDITORS' CHOICE PRODUCT GUIDE

SEACOR JOINT SERVICES DEMO

HIGH WIRE ACT

2009 EDITORS' Choice

Safety Enhancements

We asked our contributors and editors to voice their opinions about unique, innovative products currently available in the market and compiled these entries. These are the editors' choice.

BLR AEROSPACE DUAL TAIL BOOM STRAKES AND FASTFIN

This kit, which includes fin and the strakes, is currently certified for the Bell 204, 205, 212, and UH-1 series of helicopters. Certification on the Bell 412 is expected in the second quarter of 2010, and improves tail rotor authority by improving the aerodynamics around the tail boom and tail fin surfaces. The patented FastFin System modifies the tailboom with two parallel stall strips (dual tailboom strakes) and a re-shaped vertical fin, "optimizing" air-flow around the tailboom for improved handling. FastFin will also expand the lifting capacity of a helicopter, increase performance and enable greater stability in all flight regimes, including high and hot hover conditions, according to BLR. Strakes organize and control aircraft rotor wash, reducing the sideways lift on the left side of the tailboom. Strakes reduce the turbulence under the tailboom, reducing tail rotor pedal reversals by as much as 50 percent, says BLR. Weight for the mod kit is minimal. One experienced operator said recently, "If I were king, every helicopter would have this mod."

BLR AEROSPACE, 1-425-353-6591,
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