BLR Aerospace

OEM Validation Supports BLR Aerospace Growth and Success

Growing support of BLR Aerospace products from OEMs in 2010 redefined the company from an aftermarket provider of aircraft performance enhancements to a trusted technology partner.

Bell Adopts FastFin

Just in the past year, both Bell Helicopter and Hawker Beechcraft Corporation announced plans for factory installation of BLR FastFin™ and Winglet Systems, respectively, on new aircraft. Specifically, Bell Helicopter in July announced its intent to install BLR's FastFin Tail Rotor Enhancement and Stability System on new Bell 412EP helicopters, and Bell celebrated delivery of its first FastFin-equipped aircraft late last year.

Measurable Improvements

FastFin is certified for Bell 204, 205, 212, Huey II, and most UH-1 derivatives as an aftermarket upgrade that delivers measurable gains in payload and stability, especially in high and hot conditions. Depending on conditions, some Bell 412 operators could realize useful load increases up to 1250 pounds (more than 90%). Additionally, FastFin installation can reduce operating costs by 45 percent or more.

How it Works

The FastFin system modifies the tail boom with two parallel stall strips, known as Dual Tail Boom Strakes, and a reshaped vertical fin, optimizing airflow around the tail boom for dramatic improvements in tail rotor efficiency and wind azimuth tolerance. With these simple changes, operators can do — and earn — more than ever before.

About BLR Aerospace

BLR is focused on developing the highest performance aerodynamic solutions in the industry. BLR, now in its 21st year, holds patented technologies for both fixed- and rotary-wing aircraft, and has certified over 60 Supplemental Type Certificates. BLR remains focused on the development of products that increase gross weight and landing weight, reduce critical V-speeds, increase cruise speeds, reduce fuel burn, increase hover loads and improve handling qualities. BLR Aerospace is a NASA Technology Transfer Licensee. ■

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