

Safety Notice SN-33

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DRIVE BELT SLACK

Pilots must ensure R22 and R44 drive belts do not have excessive slack during engine start. Belts that are too loose may jump out of their sheave grooves while being tensioned, but the pilot has no way of observing this. Therefore, the following checklist items are very important.

1. Per preflight checklist, with clutch disengaged, deflect belts inboard just above fan scroll on aircraft right side. Verify a maximum of 1.5 inches (4 cm) deflection. If belts deflect further, have belt tension actuator adjusted prior to flight.
2. Per run-up checklist, verify rotor turns within 5 seconds after engaging clutch switch. If time is longer, shut down and have belt tension actuator adjusted prior to flight.