

ENSTROM 480B TURBINE Model Guide

The ENSTROM 480B TURBINE is a turbine-powered Enstrom helicopter. Registry data classes the 480 family (variants 480 and 480B) as turboshaft. Family-level figures run up to 5 passengers, 1200 kg MTOW, 430 nm range and 13000 ft service ceiling. The library row lists it as piston, which conflicts with the turbine service documents.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Family-level registry maxima: up to 5 passengers, 1200 kg MTOW, 430 nm range, 13000 ft ceiling. Confirm 480B figures in the flight manual.
- The FAA-approved Operator's Manual and Rotorcraft Flight Manual (Report 28-AC-023) is at Revision 25, and it must be carried in the helicopter.
- On 480B S/N 5134 and subsequent, or retrofitted units, the rotor warning light and horn trigger below 332 RPM or above 385 RPM.
- Ask for compliance records on service letters T-073 to T-076: pylon doubler, fuel cell, upper pulley and tail rotor gearbox gear wear.

DOCUMENTS AND RECORDS

The type certificate is H1CE. The Operator's Manual and Rotorcraft Flight Manual is Revision 25, dated 27 Jan 2025 and FAA approved 18 Mar 2025. Chapters 1 to 5 are the FAA-approved part. The Illustrated Parts Catalog covers the TH-28, 480 and 480B and is at Revision 19 (Jul 22/25). Check that the manual in the aircraft matches the current revision.

OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT TO VERIFY

The manual's supplements list includes cargo hook, snow shoes, external fuel filter, baggage box extension, camera door, emergency floats, air conditioning, nose positioned camera mount, searchlight and EFIS. The EFIS supplement is listed as not EASA approved, which matters for European registration. Confirm which supplements are actually fitted and approved.

SERVICE LETTERS TO REVIEW

The turbine service letter index dated April 8, 2026 includes T-073 (pylon reinforcement doubler), T-074R1 (fuel cell/bladder assembly), T-075 (upper pulley P/N 4130538-11) and T-076 (tail rotor transmission premature gear wear, June 24, 2025). Check each letter's effectivity against the serial number and ask for evidence of compliance.

SPECIFICATIONS

Family Max Passengers	5
Family Max Mtow Kg	1200
Rotor Warning Low Rpm	332
Rotor Warning High Rpm	385

PERFORMANCE

Family Max Range Nm	430
Family Max Service Ceiling Ft	13000

SAFETY NOTES

- Rotor warning: light and horn activate when rotor speed is below 332 RPM or above 385 RPM. The horn is silenced with the collective on the down stop.
- Older systems warned only for low rotor RPM. Check whether the Hi/Lo Rotor RPM Switch (P/N ECD4079) is fitted.
- Service letter T-045 covers restraining cargo in the cabin. Review it before carrying loads.