

BELL 206L-3 Model Guide

BELL 206L-3 is a Bell light helicopter in the 206L family (206L, 206L-1, 206L-3, 206L-4). The family is listed as turboshaft-powered and carries up to 5 passengers, with family maxima of 145 kt cruise, 810 nm range and 20,000 ft service ceiling. The documents give no 206L-3-specific performance figures, so confirm them in the flight manual.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Family-level data only: up to 5 passengers, 145 kt cruise, 810 nm range and 20,000 ft ceiling across 206L variants, not necessarily the 206L-3.
- If a cargo hook is fitted, its manual release cable (P/N 268-004-00 or 268-011-00) should be replaced with 268-004-01 per a 2011 service bulletin.
- Some aircraft carry an AFS inlet barrier filter (STC SR09421RC). On the 206L-3 it needs no structural cowl change except an access door.

CARGO HOOK RELEASE CABLE

Onboard Systems bulletin 159-030-00 (August 1, 2011) covers the 206L-3 and other models. It reports failures of manual release cable P/N 268-004-00, which can cause an uncommanded release. It calls for replacement with P/N 268-004-01 and a pre-flight cable check. Work takes about 1.5 man-hours. Ask for proof of compliance.

INLET BARRIER FILTER OPTION

The AFS inlet barrier filter replaces the Engine Air Particle Separator or air induction screen. It is sold as kit 106000-105 (metal cowl) or 106000-111 (composite cowl). The maker claims over 99% dust separation efficiency. A cockpit FILTER light and a BYPASS light show filter status. Servicing is on-condition, and the filter is removed through a right-side access door.

WHAT TO VERIFY BEFORE BUYING

The library record lists the engine as piston, but the family data says turboshaft and the documents refer to a Rolls Royce 250-C30P on related models. Do not rely on the library record. Confirm engine type, installed STC kits, hook and filter records, and weights and speeds from the aircraft's own flight manual and logbooks.

SAFETY NOTES

- A damaged manual release cable can cause an uncommanded load release. Check its condition before each external load mission.
- Kinked or broken conduit, inner cable kinks, fraying or sticky operation each require immediate cable replacement.
- Cable free play must be rigged with the hook closed and locked, with a gap of at least .125 inches (3.2 mm). Incorrect rigging causes uncommanded release.