ENSTROM 480

eduard

1/72 Scale Plastic Model Kit



item No. 972012

HYBRID

The Enstrom 480 is a multi-purpose light helicopter used in more than 30 countries by civilian as well as military, police or other law-enforcement users. It offers great flying characteristics and economy for pilot training as it was developed with this service in mind.

The Enstrom Helicopter Corporation is an American helicopter manufacturer founded in 1959 by Rudolph J. Enstrom as R. J. Enstrom Corp. Enstrom started designing his own helicopter, but he lacked knowledge, as he was a mining engineer. His first efforts were not too successful but local investors stepped in and helped him to recruit some experienced aeronautical engineers in 1959. The company's first product was the piston-powered F-28 in 1965. However, the founder had been removed from his position in the company before that product came onto the market, although the company continued to carry his name.

Mixed results

In October 1968, a controlling interest in Enstrom was bought by Purex Industries with intention to develop a turbine powered version of the F-28. The plan reached its fruition finally, but over 20 years later.

Meanwhile, the sales of the piston engine variant dropped and the Purex stake was bought by F. Lee Bailey, the famous American criminal defense attorney, in January 1971. Bailey soon had the factory producing over a hundred helicopters per year and he also orchestrated the development of the 280 Shark, which was introduced in 1974. It was an immediate sales success, and Bailey went on with a plan for a four-place version of the Shark, designated 280L Hawk. But the combination of technical problems during development and the Great Depression hurt the company's finances so badly that Bailey sold the company in 1979.

Since then, Enstrom has changed owners several times. One of them was Segway's developer Dean Kamen who concentrated not only on improving existing products, but also on the introduction of the turbine-powered helicopter, with which it participated in the US Army's New Training Helicopter program at the turn of the 1980s and 1990s. The prototype designated TH-28 took to the air for the first time on October 7, 1989, with a total of six TH-28s being built. The Bell TH-67 won the tender, so Enstrom continued to develop this helicopter for the civilian market under the designation 480. FAA certification was granted to the 480 in 1993, and the first customers received their helicopters the following year. The company was sold to an unknown Swiss investor in 2000, but Kamen stayed with the company as an advisor.

Since 2001, a 480B version with increased engine power and a higher maximum take-off weight was also available. The police 480B Guardian is equipped with a camera and searchlight as standard. The 480B-G version was later introduced with a so-called glass cockpit.

In Chinese hands

Since delivering their first helicopter in April 1965, Enstrom produced over 1,100 helicopters, up to July 2011, but the recession considerably hurt the company, which dropped to only 60 employees. In January 2013 the company was purchased by the Chinese Chongqing Helicopter Investment Corporation and the company was expanding again, having increased its workforce to 200 people producing three types: The Lycoming HIO-360 turbocharged piston engine powered F-28 and 280, and the Rolls-Royce 250-C20W turbine engined 480.

But in January 2022 the company declared bankruptcy and even the technical support for Enstrom customers ceased on January 19, 2022, and the factory closed three days later. At the time of its closure the company had only 30 employees. Several companies expressed interest in buying the assets. In May 2022 Surack Enterprises stepped in with the initial aim to start production of spare parts, followed by helicopter production and the development of new products. In December 2022, the company was granted an FAA production certificate, allowing the manufacturing of parts under company quality control.

The kit: Enstrom 480

The front part of the fuselage of the Enstrom 480 houses a cockpit made of composite materials and aluminum, which can accommodate up to five people. The truss-type middle part of the fuselage is made of steel tubes and houses the engine, reduction gear, main rotor shaft, fuel tank, luggage compartment, and landing skids. The semi-monocoque tail made of riveted aluminum sheets is complemented by horizontal stabilizers with vertical tail fins. The main rotor has three blades, while the tail rotor has two blades.

The Enstrom 480 is flown by civilian users in approximately 30 countries. These helicopters are also operated by around 20 police forces in the US, as well as police forces in China, Indonesia, and Canada. Several military users, namely Thailand, Japan, Equatorial Guinea, and Venezuela, also use it primarily for training military pilots.

In the Czech Republic, DSA has been operating the 480B OK-ENS helicopter since 2014, the 480B OK-ENG since 2018, and a year later began operating a pair of 480B-G OK-CLV and OK-LPT helicopters. When the search began in 2017 for a replacement for the aging Mi-2 helicopters used to train future army helicopter pilots, Enstrom won the competition with its 480B-G model. Currently, the state-owned CLV (Aviation Training Center) Pardubice operates nine of these helicopters. The first two Enstroms landed in Pardubice on June 20, 2018.

ATTENTION ✶ UPOZORNĚNÍ ✶ ACHTUNG ✶ ATTENTION ✶ 注意

Carefully read instruction sheet before assembling. When you use glue or paint, do not use near open flame and use in well ventilated room. Keep out of reach of small children. Children must not be allowed to suck any part, or pull vinyl bag over the head.

Před započetím stavby si pečlivě prostudujte stavební návod. Při používání barev a lepidel pracujte v dobre větrané místnosti. Lepidla ani barvy nepoužívejte v blízkosti otevřeného ohně. Model není určen malým dětem, mohlo by dojít k požití drobných dílů.

INSTRUCTION SIGNS ✶ INSTR. SYMBOLY ✶ INSTRUKTION SINNBILDEN ✶ SYMBOLES ✶ 記号の説明

OPTIONAL
VOLBA

BEND
OHNOUT

SAND
BROUSIT

OPEN HOLE
VYVRTAT OTVOR

SYMETRICAL ASSEMBLY
SYMETRICKÁ MONTÁŽ

REMOVE
ODŘÍZNOUT

REVERSE SIDE
OTOČIT

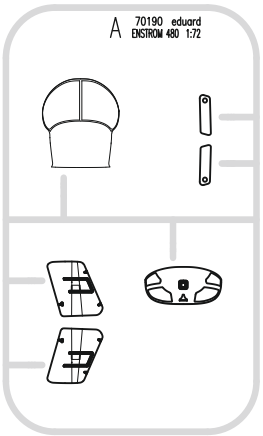
APPLY EDUARD MASK AND PAINT
POUŽÍT EDUARD MASK NABARVIT

PLEASE CHECK THE LATEST VERSION OF THE INSTRUCTIONS ON www.eduard.com

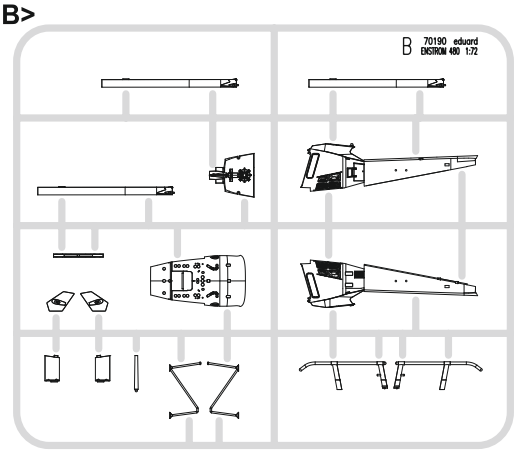
PARTS ✶ DÍLY ✶ TEILE ✶ PIÈCES ✶ 部品

PLASTIC PARTS

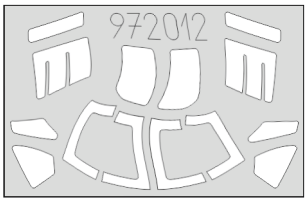
A>



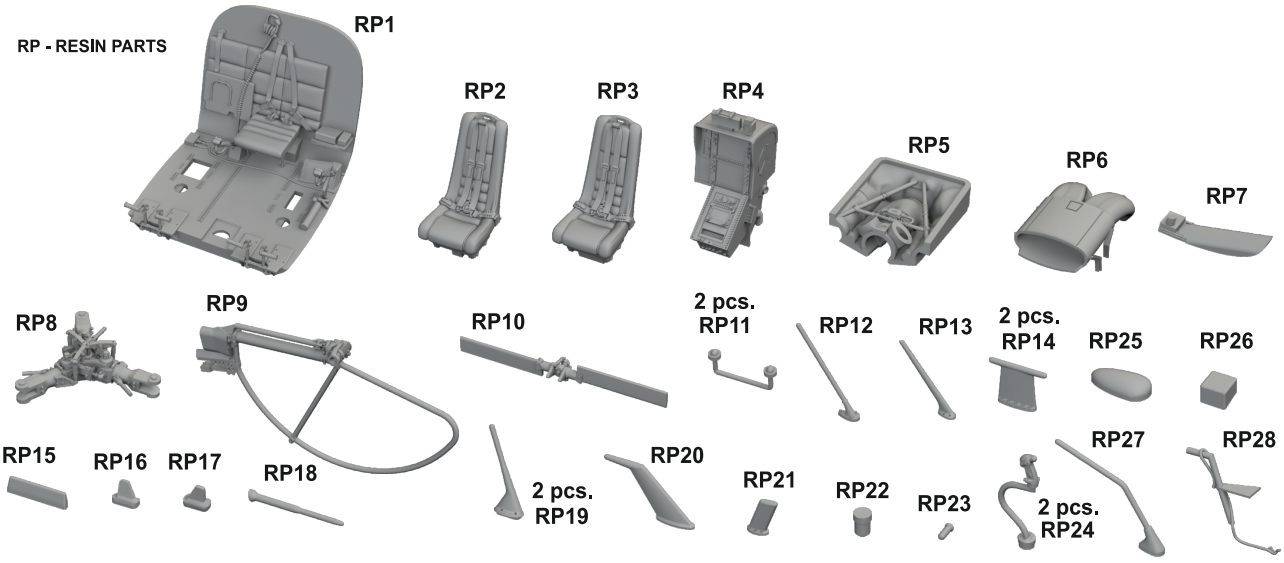
B>



eduard MASK



RP - RESIN PARTS

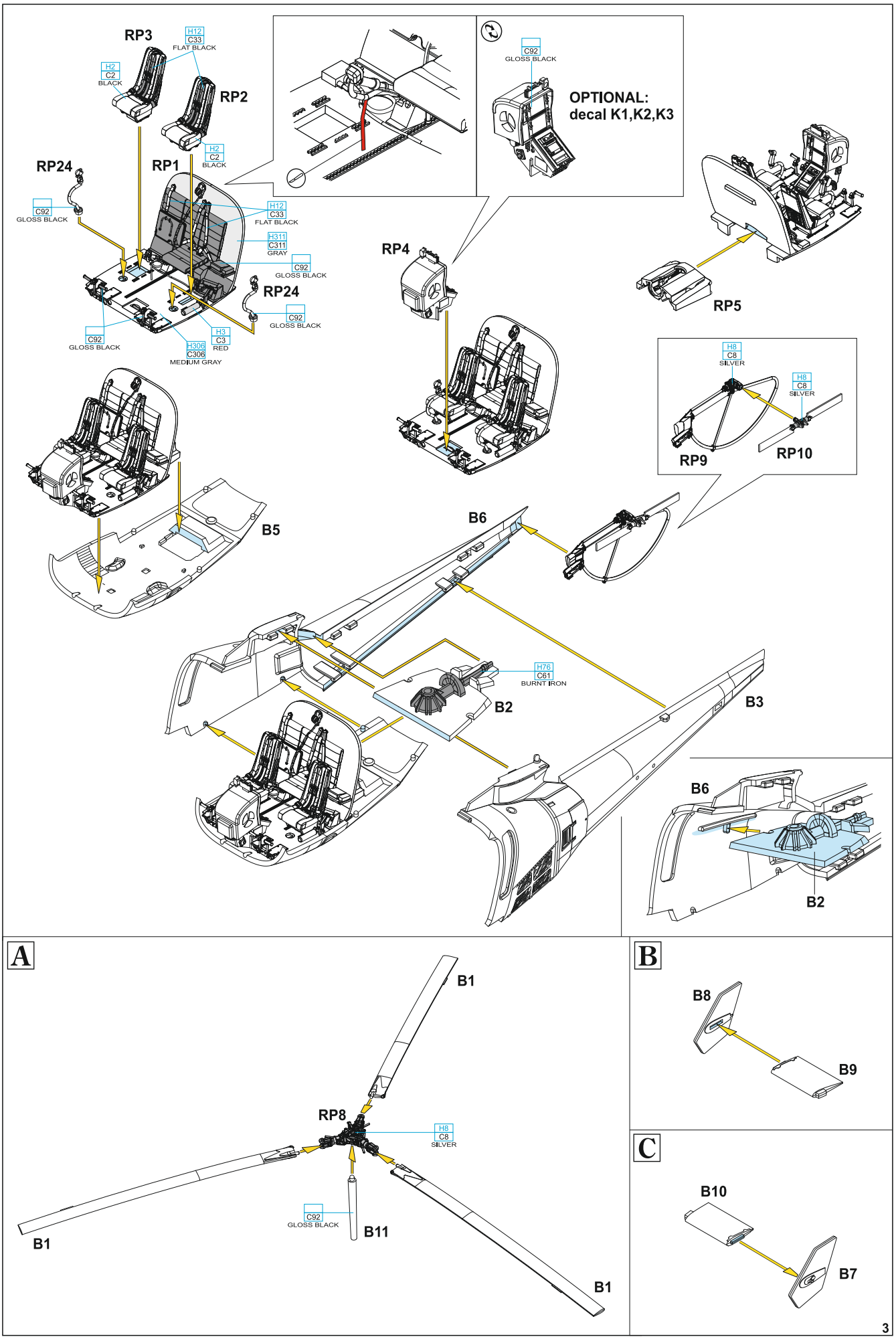


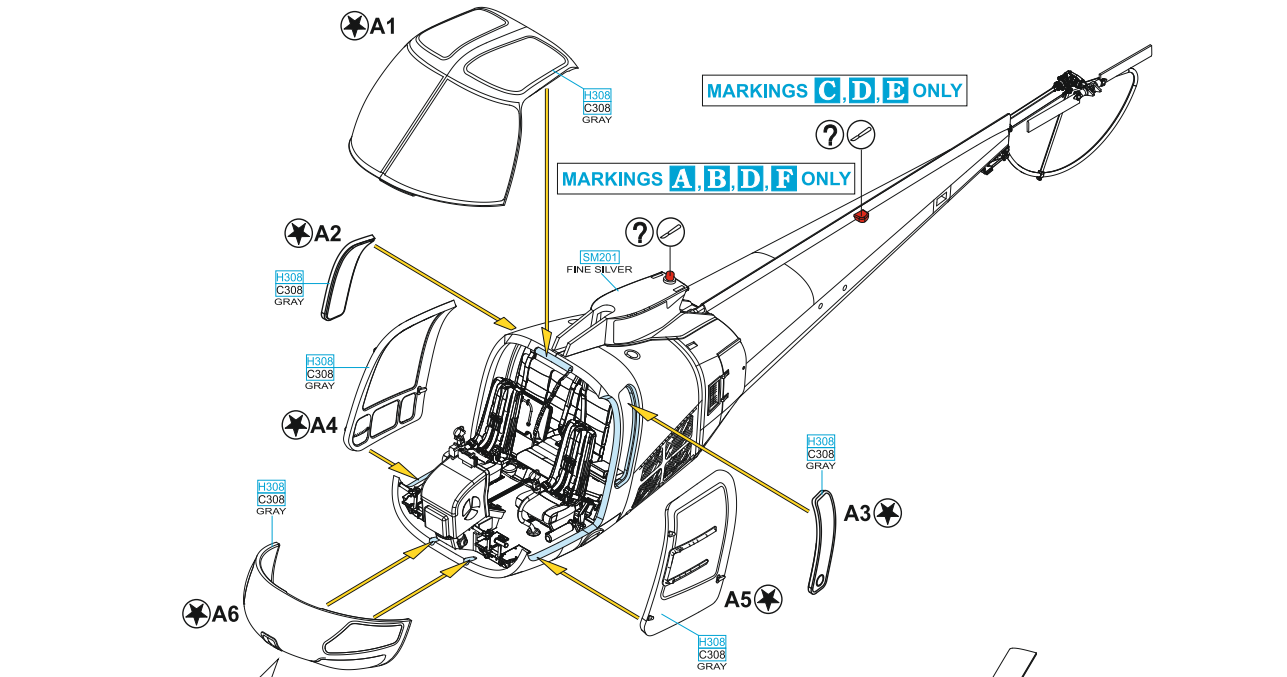
-Parts not for use. -Teile werden nicht verwendet. -Pièces à ne pas utiliser. -Tyto díly nepoužívejte při stavbě. - 使用しない部品

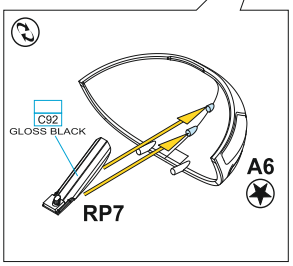
COLOURS ✶ BARVY ✶ FARBEN ✶ PEINTURE ✶ 色

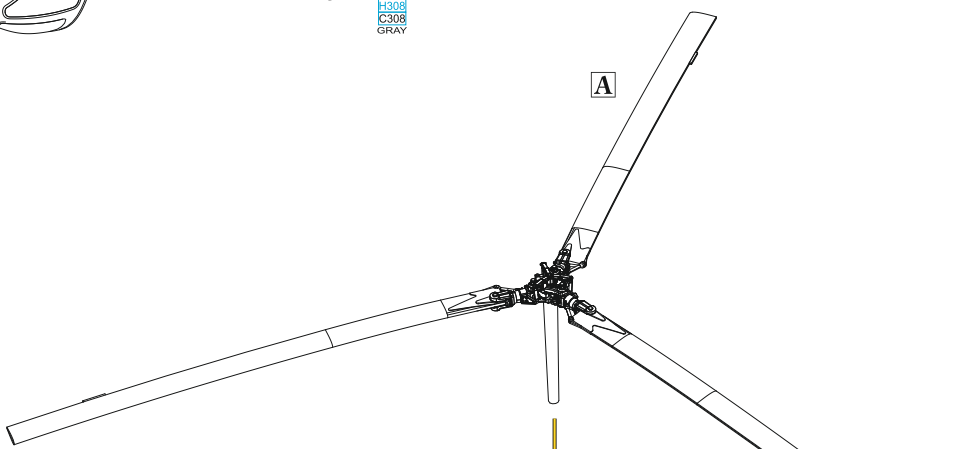
GSi Creos (GUNZE)		
AQUEOUS	Mr.COLOR	
H1	C1	WHITE
H2	C2	BLACK
H3	C3	RED
H8	C8	SILVER
H11	C62	FLAT WHITE
H12	C33	FLAT BLACK
H15	C65	BRIGHT BLUE
H76	C61	BURNT IRON
H305	C305	GRAY

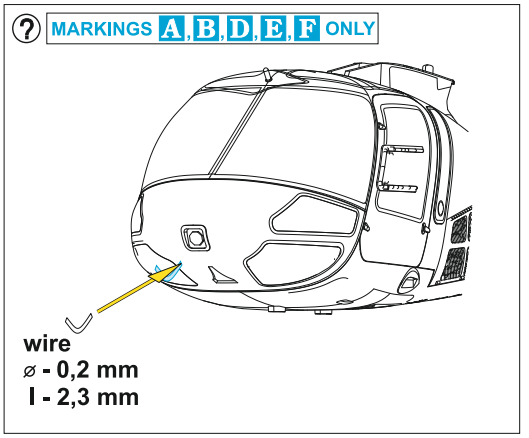
GSi Creos (GUNZE)		
AQUEOUS	Mr.COLOR	
H306	C306	MEDIUM GRAY
H308	C308	GRAY
H309	C309	GREEN
H311	C311	GRAY
H329	C329	YELLOW
	C92	SEMI GLOSS BLACK
	C130	DARK GREEN
Mr.COLOR SUPER METALLIC		
SM201		SUPER FINE SILVER

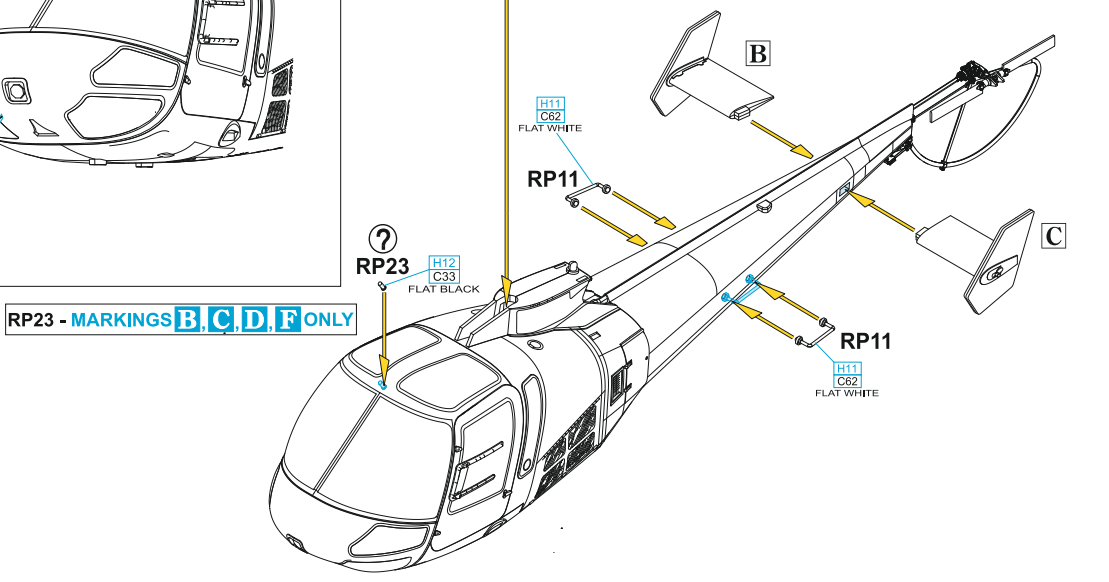

RP3
H12
C33
FLAT BLACK
H2
C2
BLACK
RP2
H2
C2
BLACK
RP24
RP1
C92
GLOSS BLACK
H12
C33
FLAT BLACK
H311
C311
GRAY
C92
GLOSS BLACK
RP24
C92
GLOSS BLACK
C92
GLOSS BLACK
H3
C3
RED
H306
C306
MEDIUM GRAY
C92
GLOSS BLACK
OPTIONAL:
decal K1,K2,K3
RP4
RP5
H8
C8
SILVER
H8
C8
SILVER
RP9
RP10
B5
B6
H76
C61
BURNT IRON
B2
B3
B6
B2
A
B1
RP8
H8
C8
SILVER
C92
GLOSS BLACK
B11
B1
B1
B
B8
B9
C
B10
B7





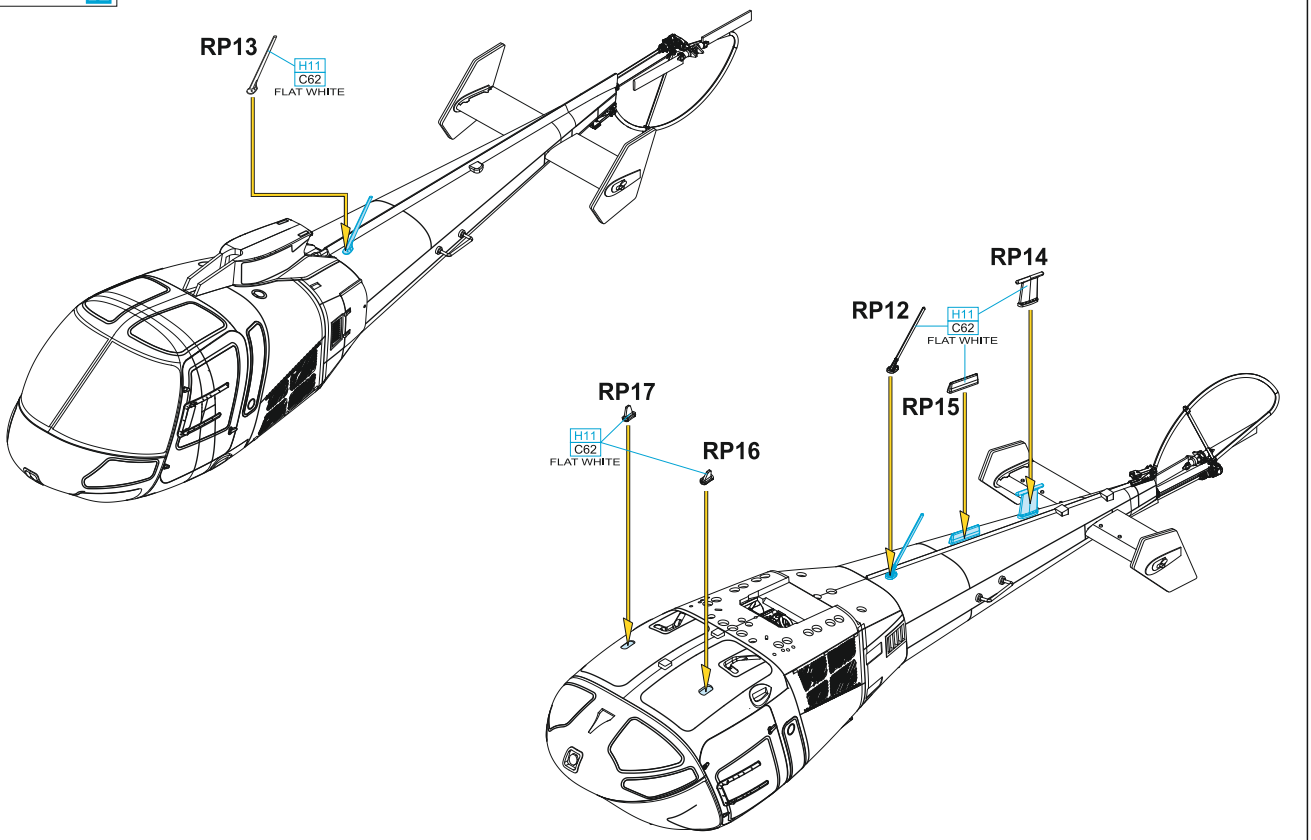




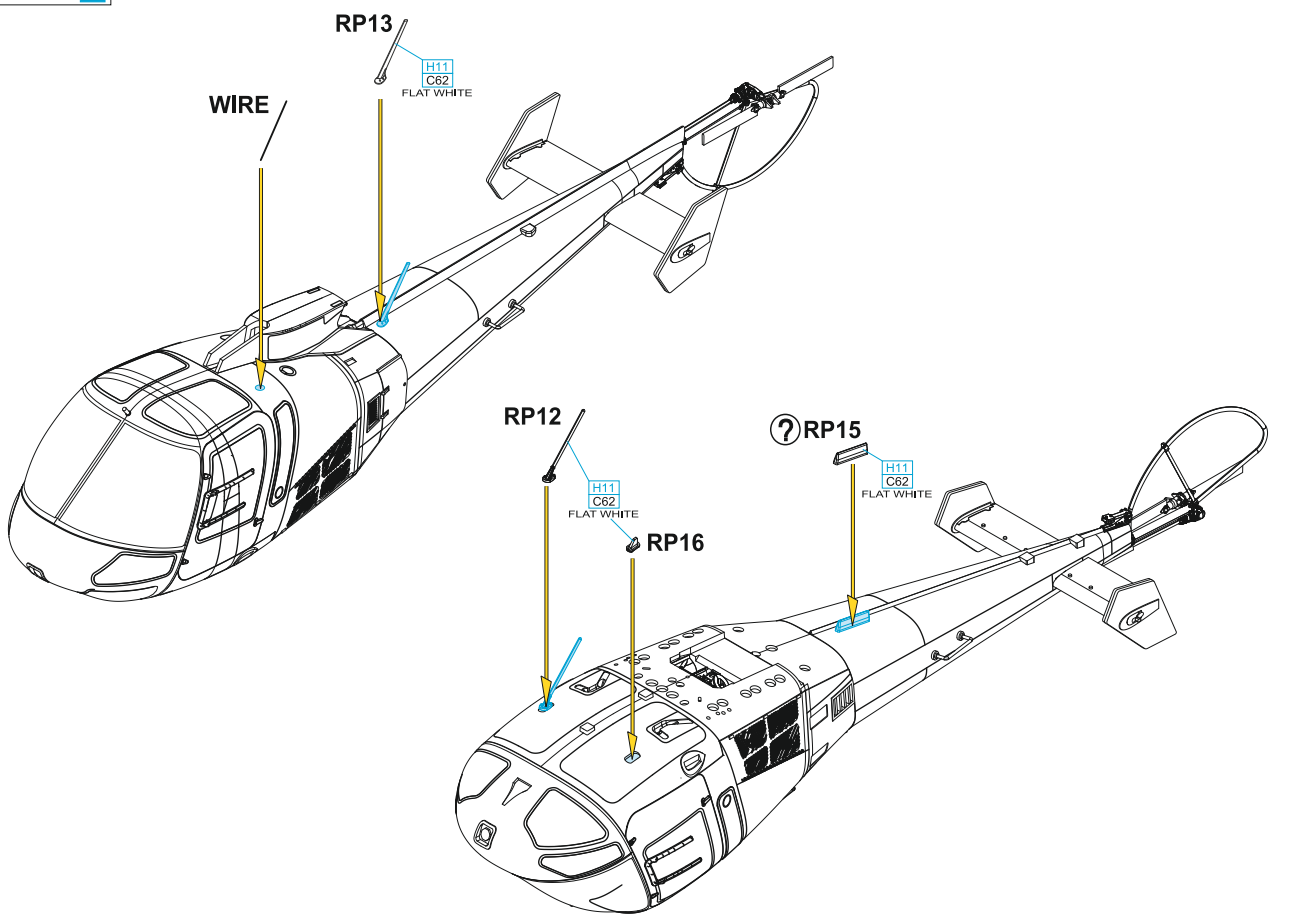


RP23 - MARKINGS B, C, D, F ONLY

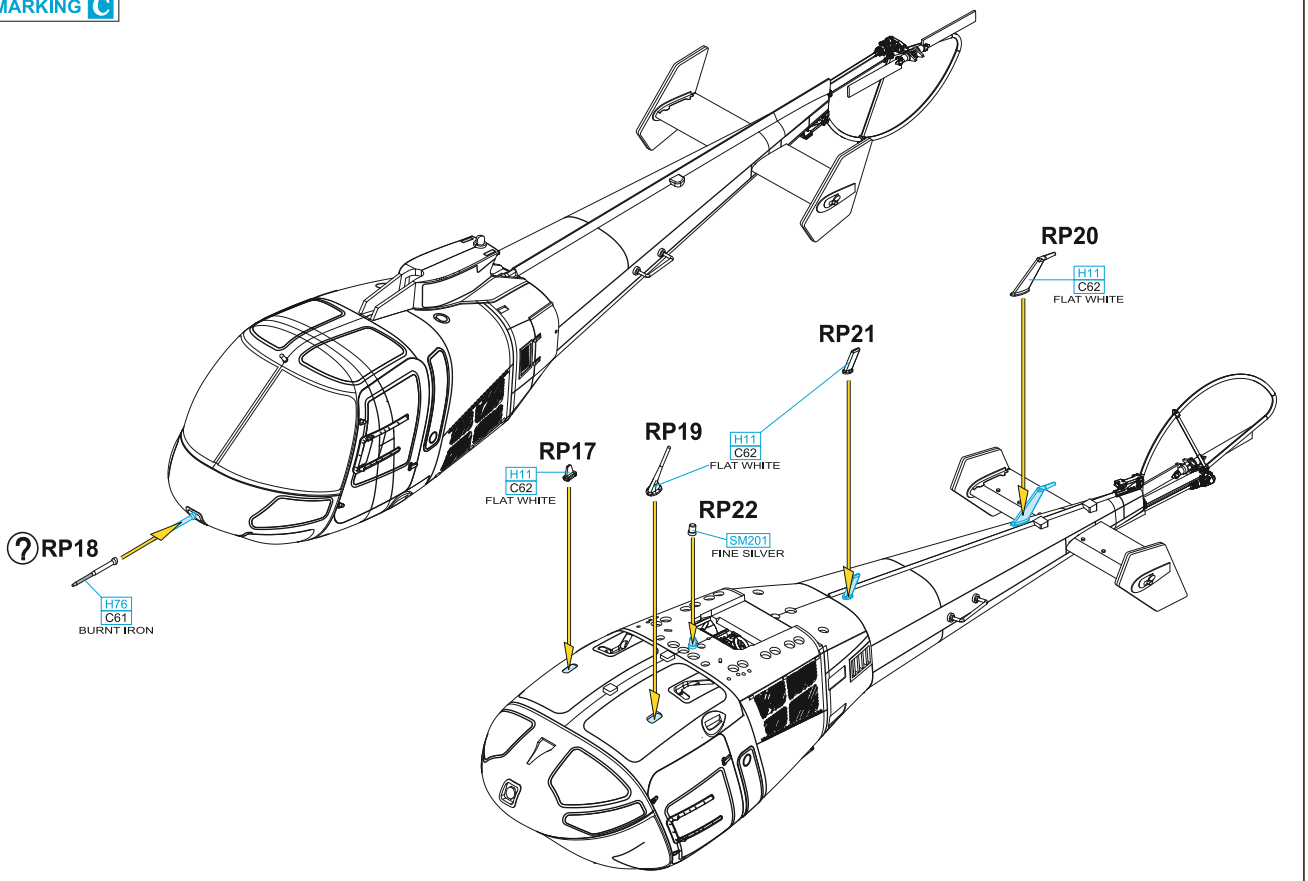
MARKING A



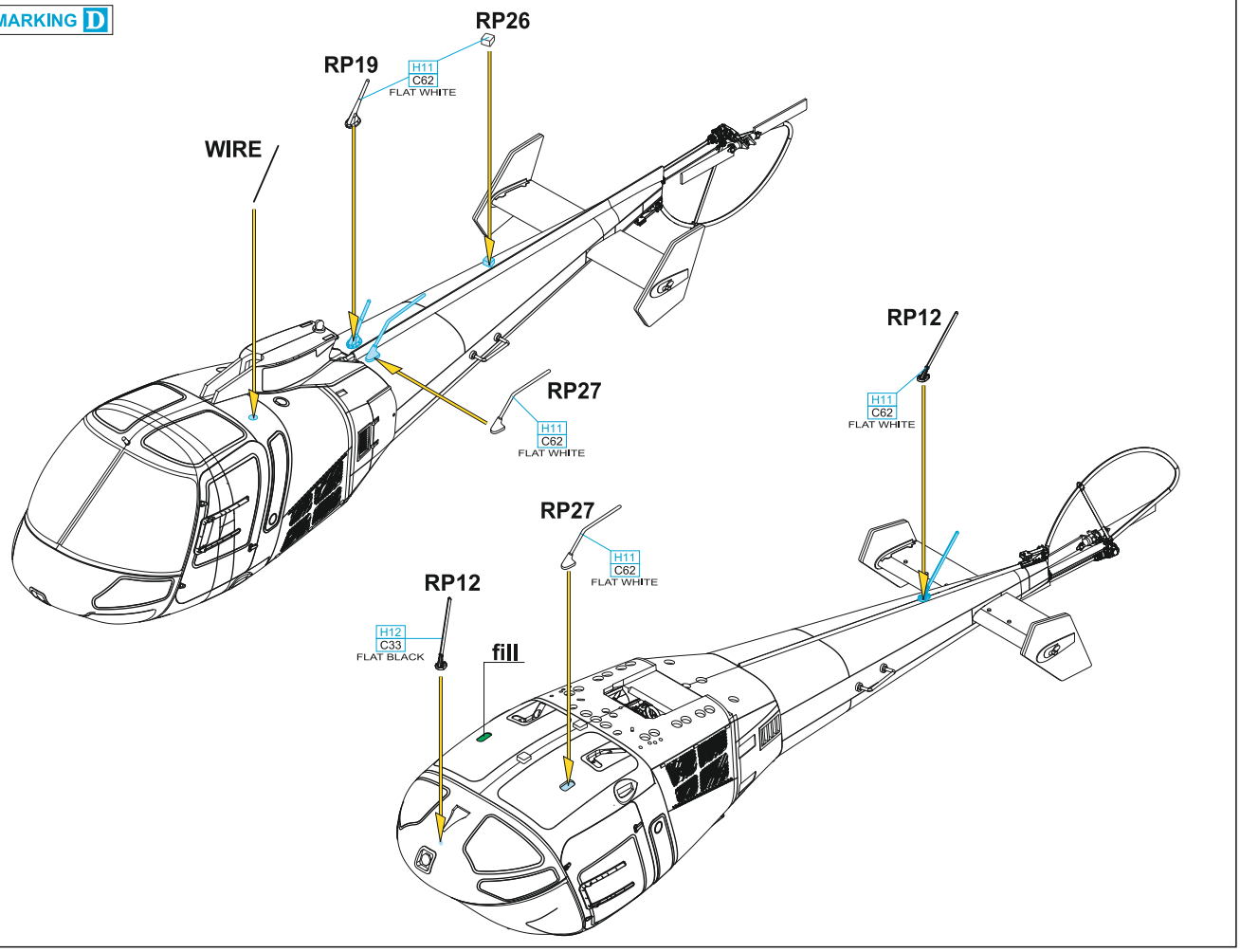
MARKING B



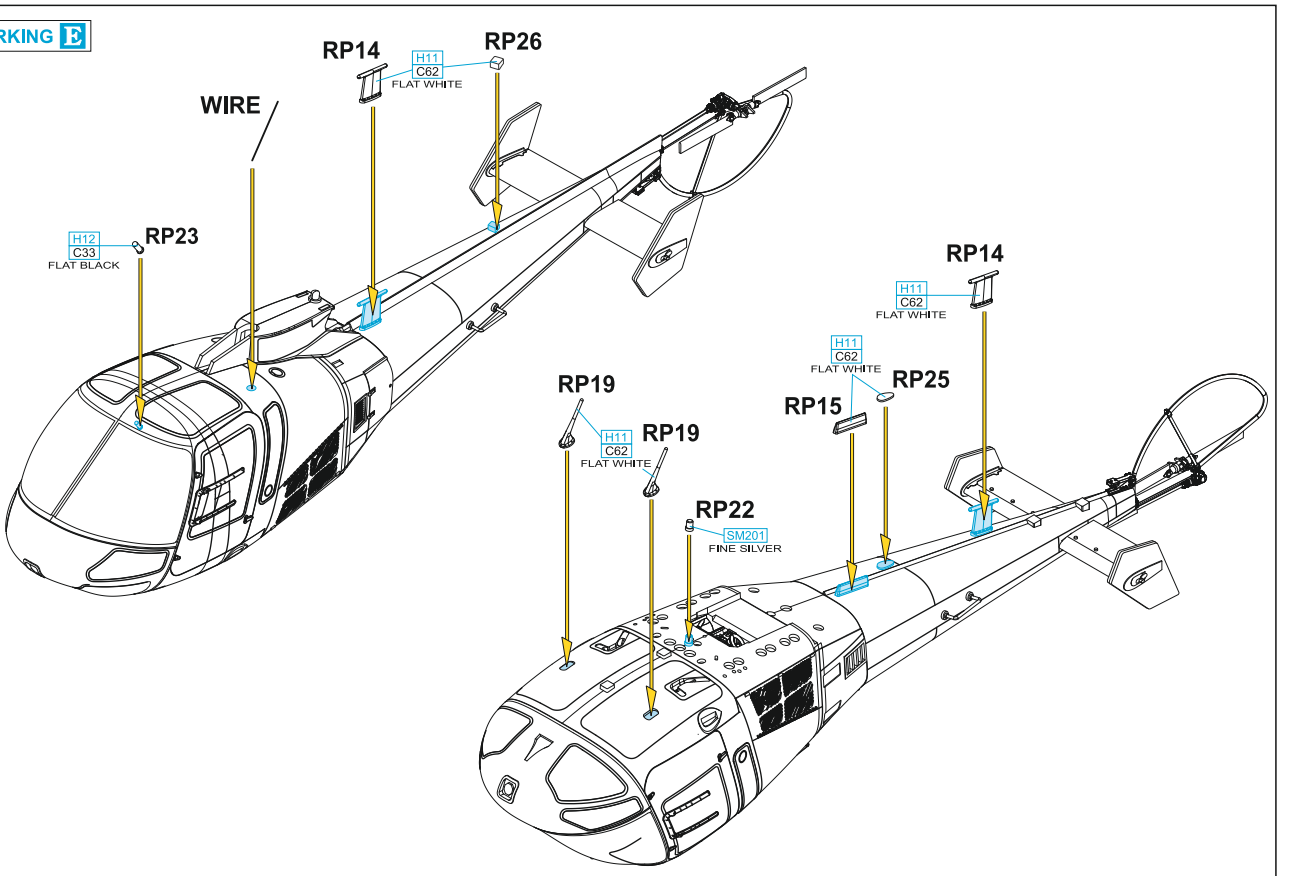
MARKING C



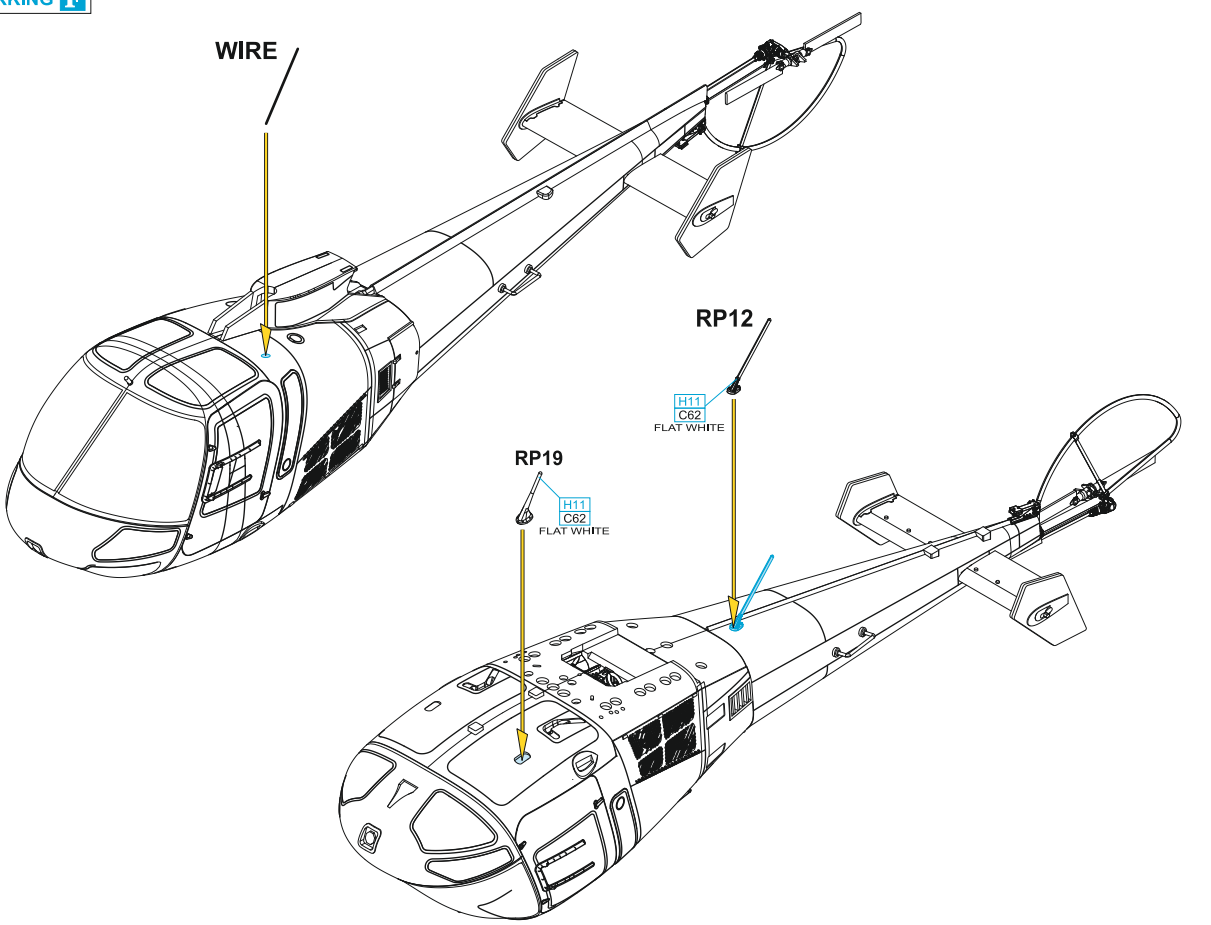
MARKING D

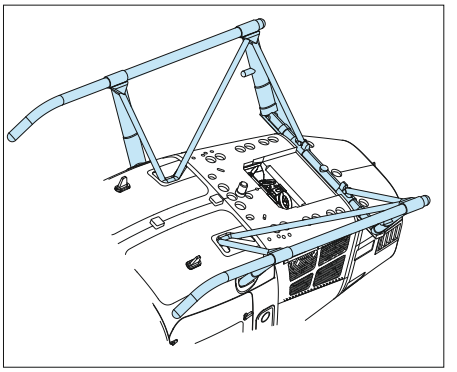


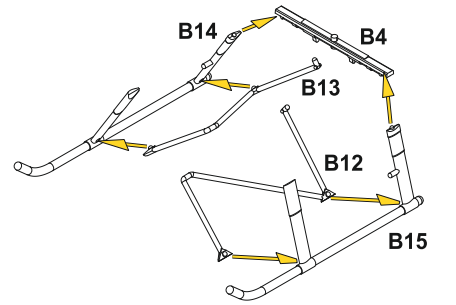
MARKING E

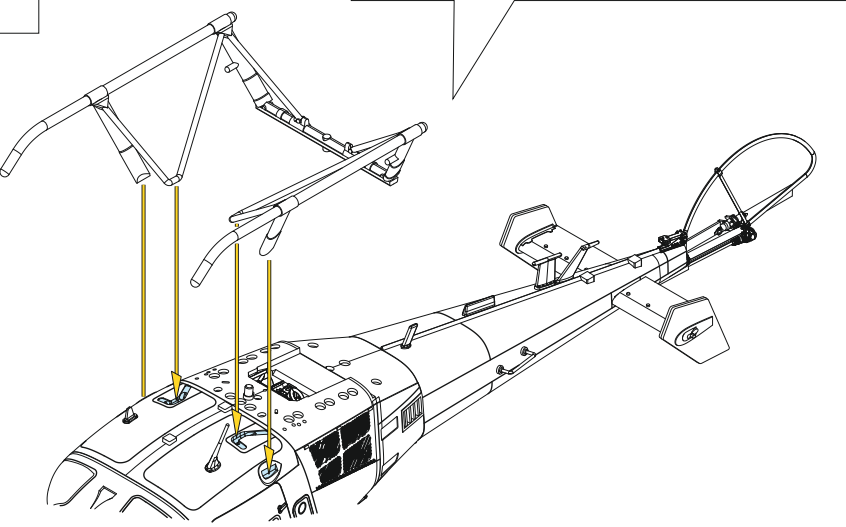


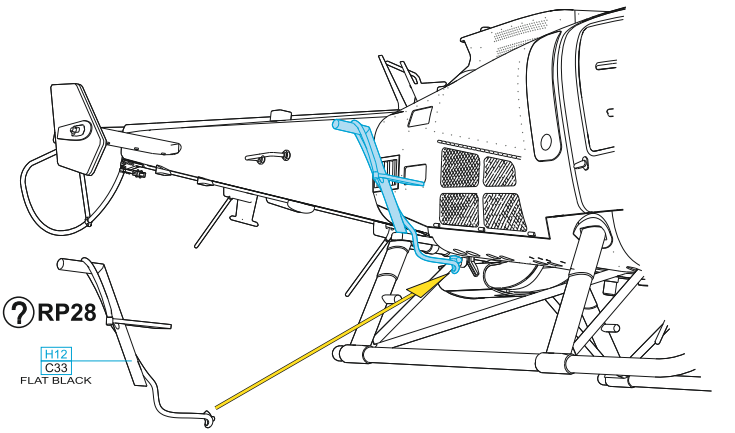
MARKING F



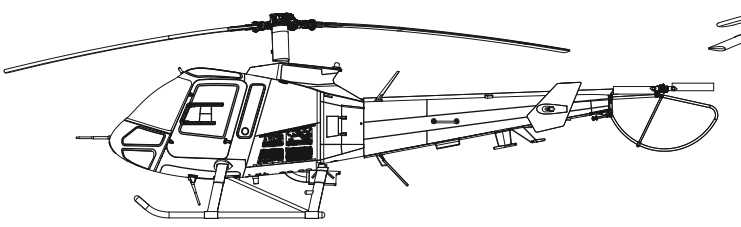


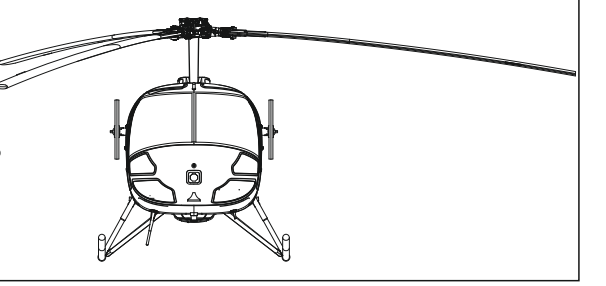


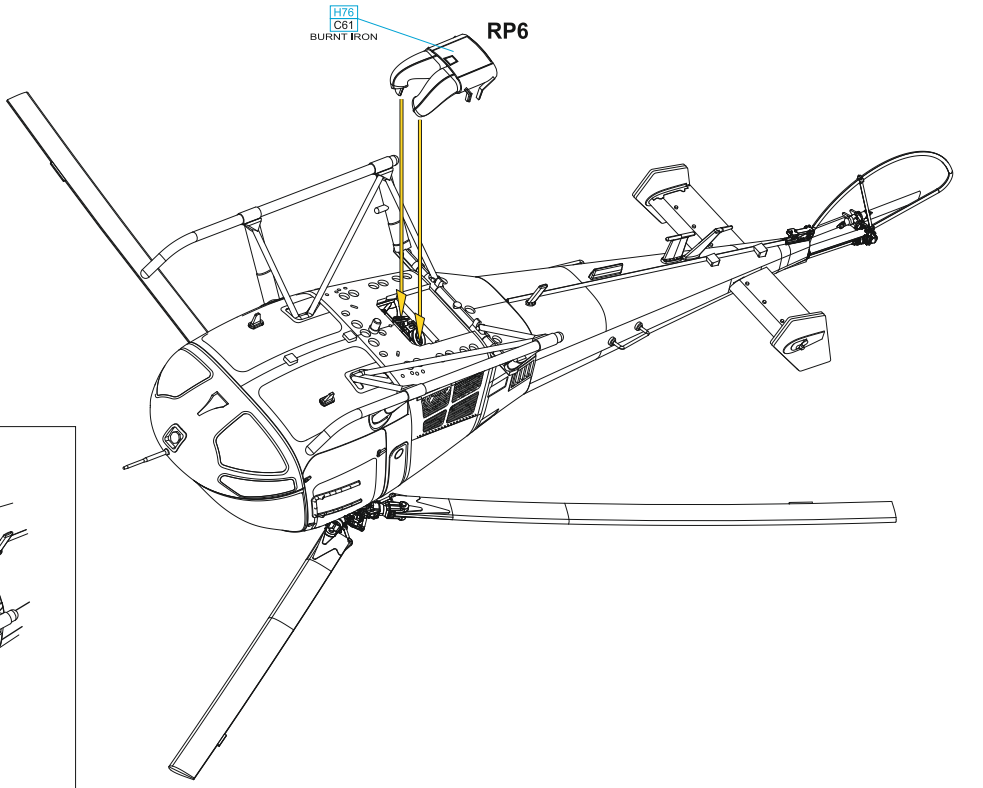


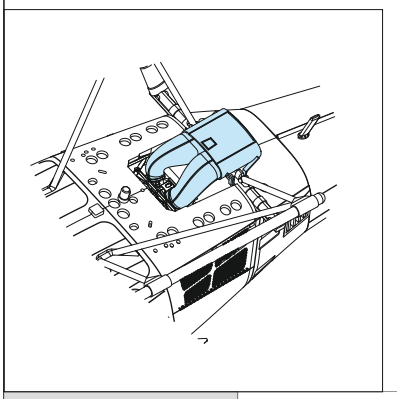


RP28 - MARKING E ONLY

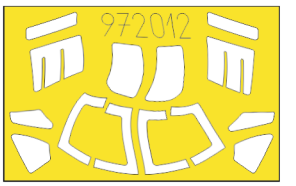






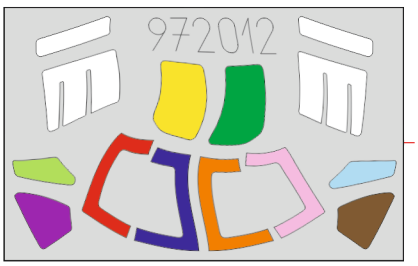


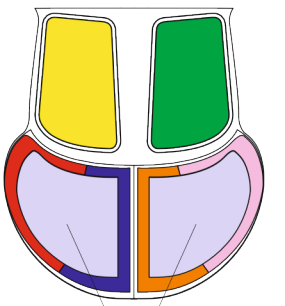
eduard
MASK
972012

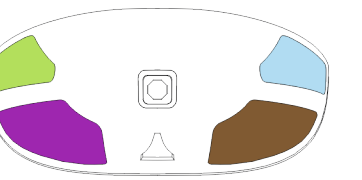


A1

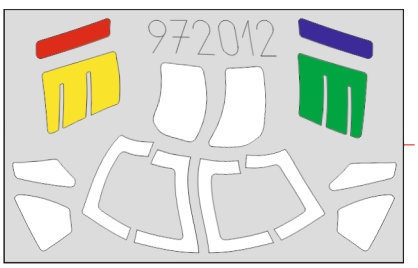
A6





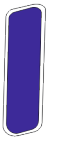


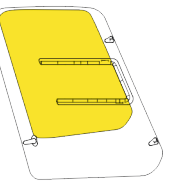
LIQUID MASK

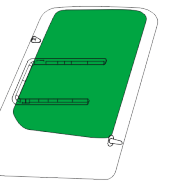


A2 A3 A4 A5



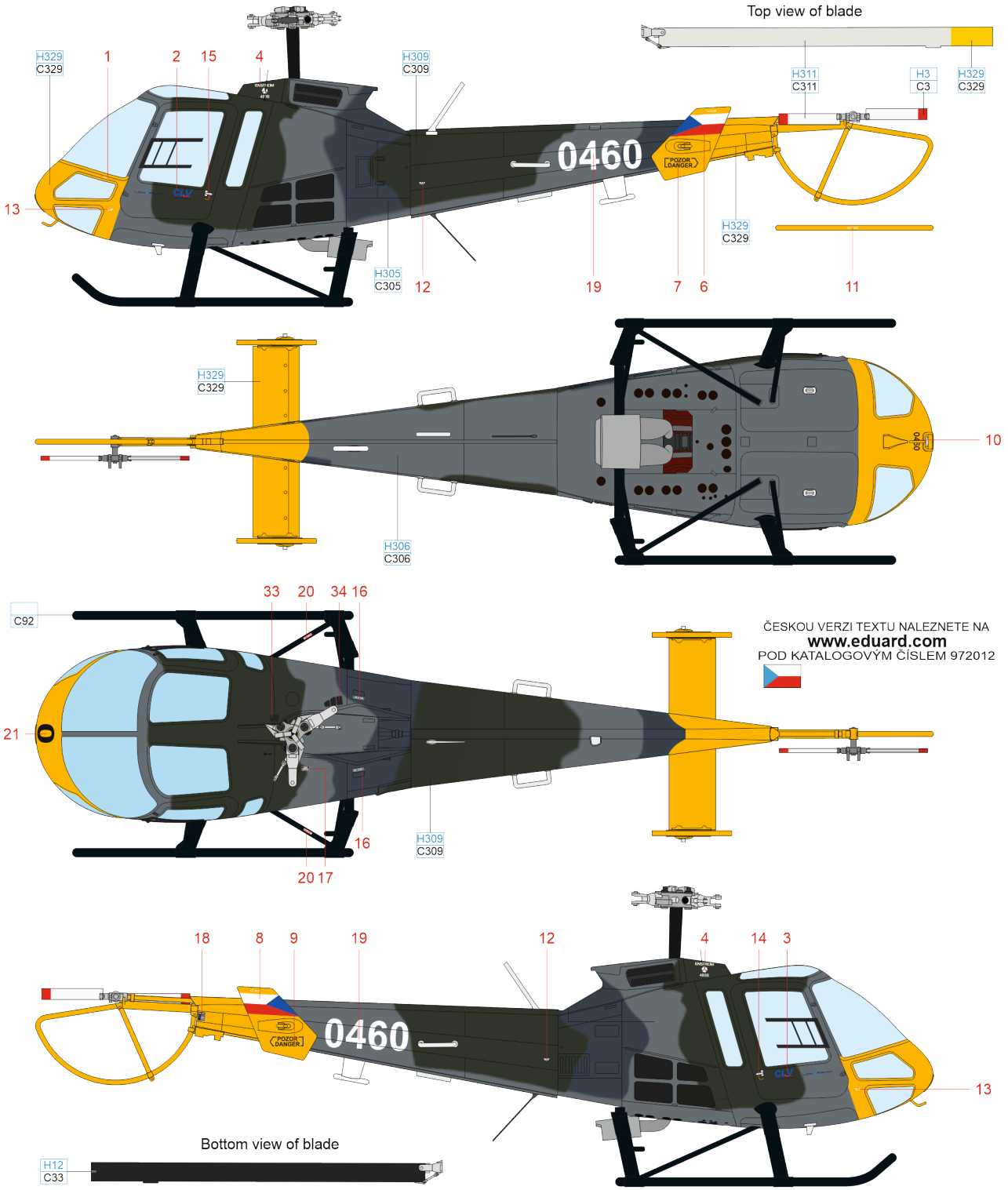






A Enstrom 480B-G, CLV Pardubice, Pardubice Airfield, Czech Republic, 2025

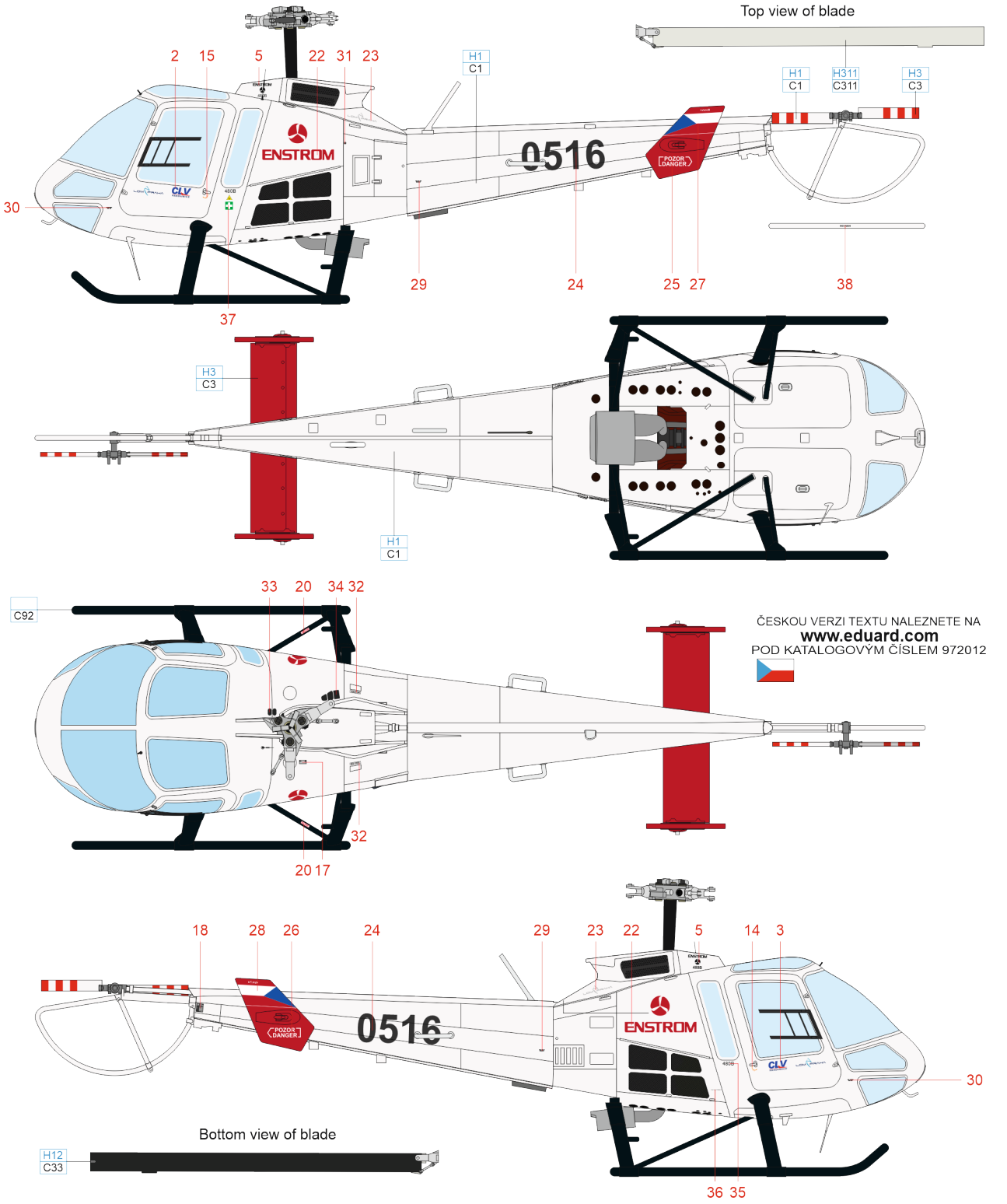
When the search began in 2017 for a replacement for the aging Mi-2 helicopters used to train future army helicopter pilots, Enstrom entered the competition with its 480B-G model. This helicopter ultimately won the competition and, in mid-2018, was incorporated into the Aviation Training Center, based at Pardubice Airport and operated by the state-owned company LOM Praha. Currently, CLV (Aviation Training Center) Pardubice operates nine of these helicopters. One of the first Enstroms delivered to Pardubice was this helicopter registration number 0460, which received standard NATO camouflage with yellow color additions.



GRAY FS36118	H305 C305	GRAY FS36270	H306 C306	BLACK	H12 C33	RED	H3 C3	YELLOW	H329 C329	DARK GREEN	H309 C309	GRAY	H311 C311	BLACK	C92

B Enstrom 480B-G, CLV Pardubice, Pardubice Airfield, Czech Republic, 2025

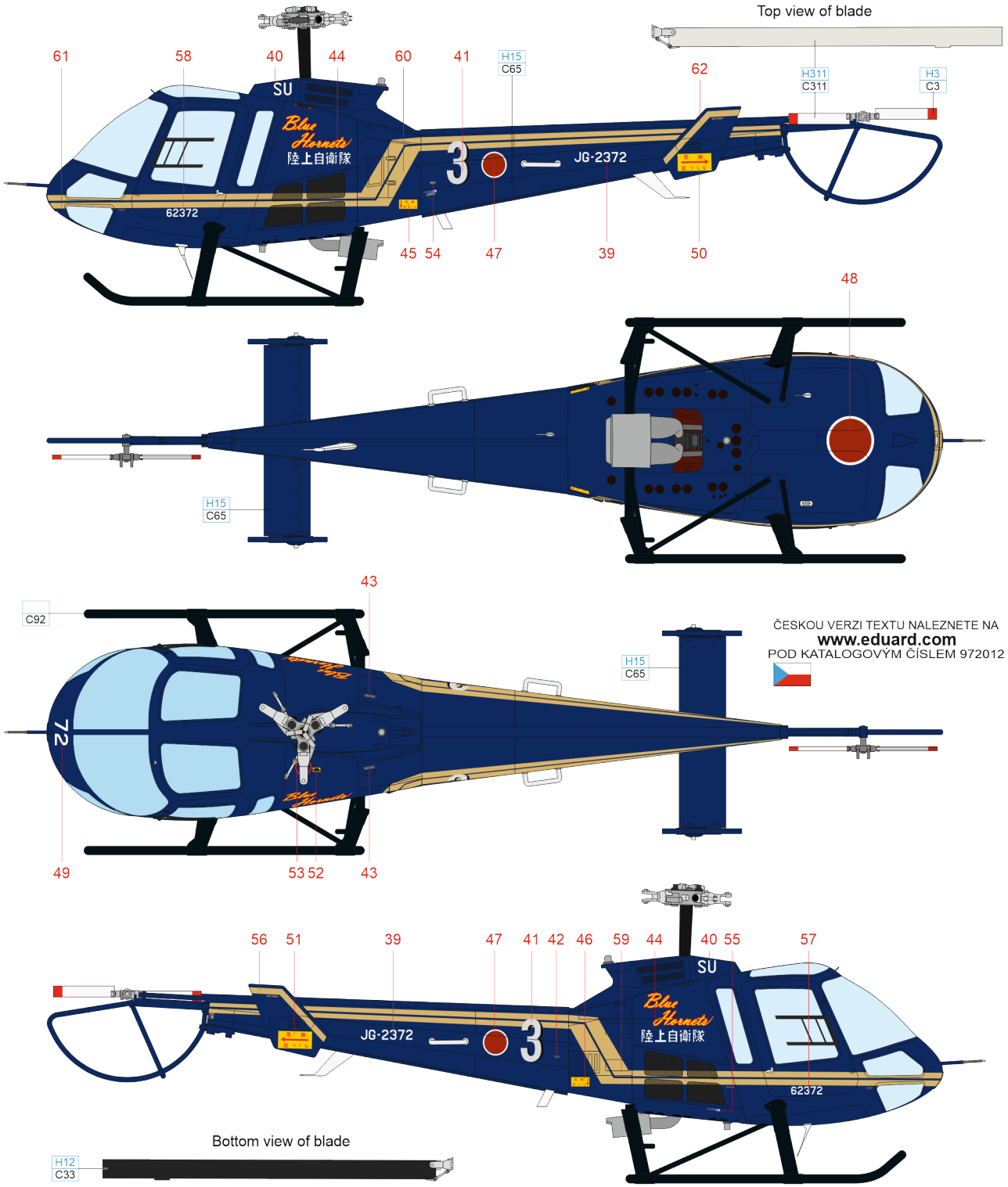
CLV Pardubice also operates this uncamouflaged aircraft with the fuselage number 0516. It was manufactured in 2018 and registered in the Czech Republic as OK-ENV with the operator DSA in July 2019. In December 2022, it became part of the CLV fleet.



WHITE	H1 C1	BLACK	H12 C33	RED	H3 C3	GRAY	H311 C311	BLACK	C92

C Enstrom TH-480B, Japan Ground Self-Defense Force, Akeno Base, Japan, November 2024

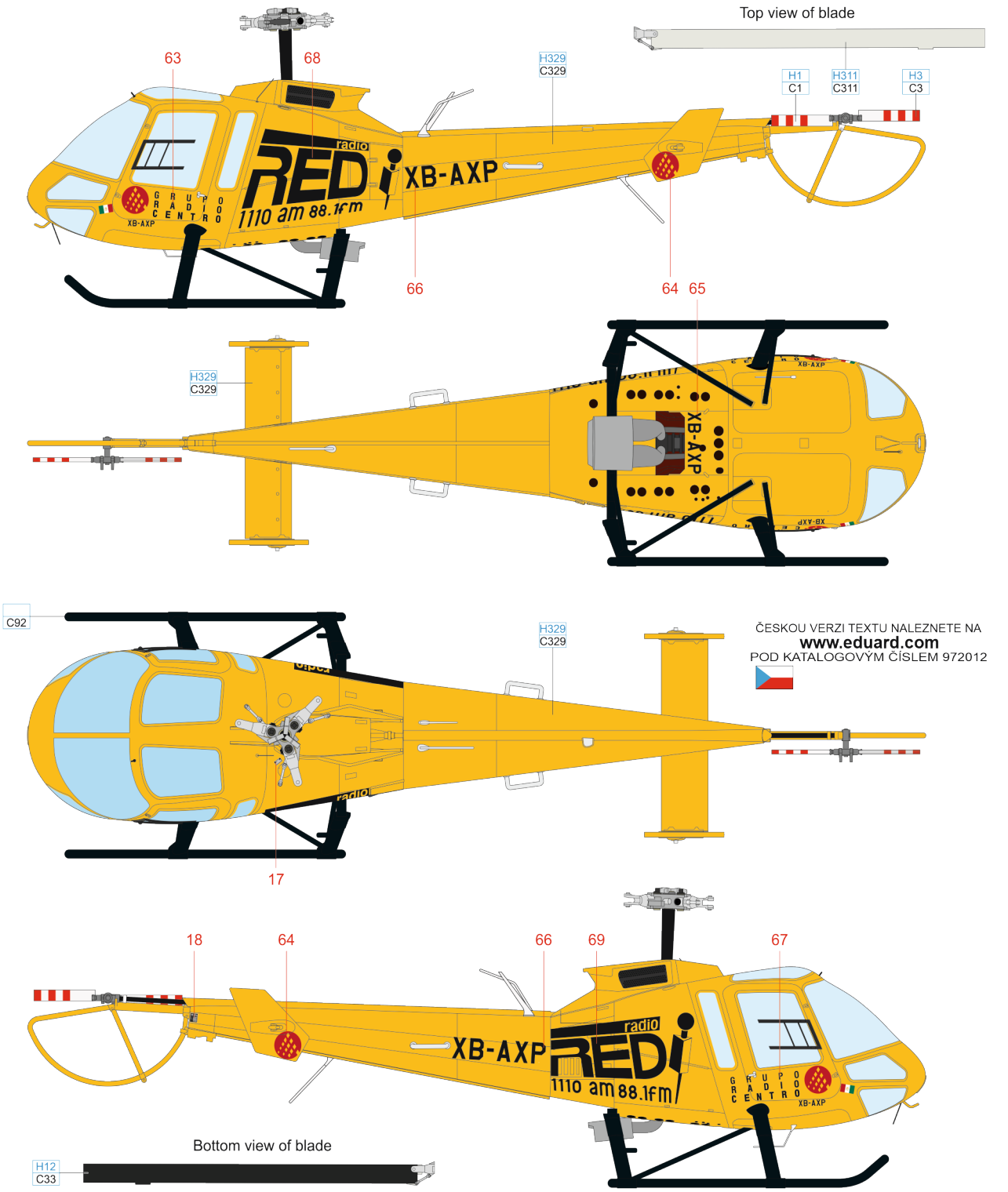
In 2010, the Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force selected Enstrom 480 helicopters manufactured by Enstrom Helicopter Corporation based in Menominee, Michigan, to replace their aging fleet of helicopters used for training of military pilots. The first helicopters were delivered in 2011, with a total of 30 aircraft delivered by March 2015. The Enstrom TH-480Bs used to train Japanese pilots are painted blue with gold stripes.



BRIGHT BLUE	H15 C65	BLACK	H12 C33	RED	H3 C3	GRAY	H311 C311	BLACK	C92

D Enstrom 480B, c/n 5043, Grupo Radio Centro, Mexico City Licenciado Benito Juarez Int'l, Mexico, November 2016

The yellow Enstrom is used for corporate purposes by Grupo Radio Centro in Mexico, which has been Mexico's most important radio group for more than 75 years. The group also operates television and digital platforms.

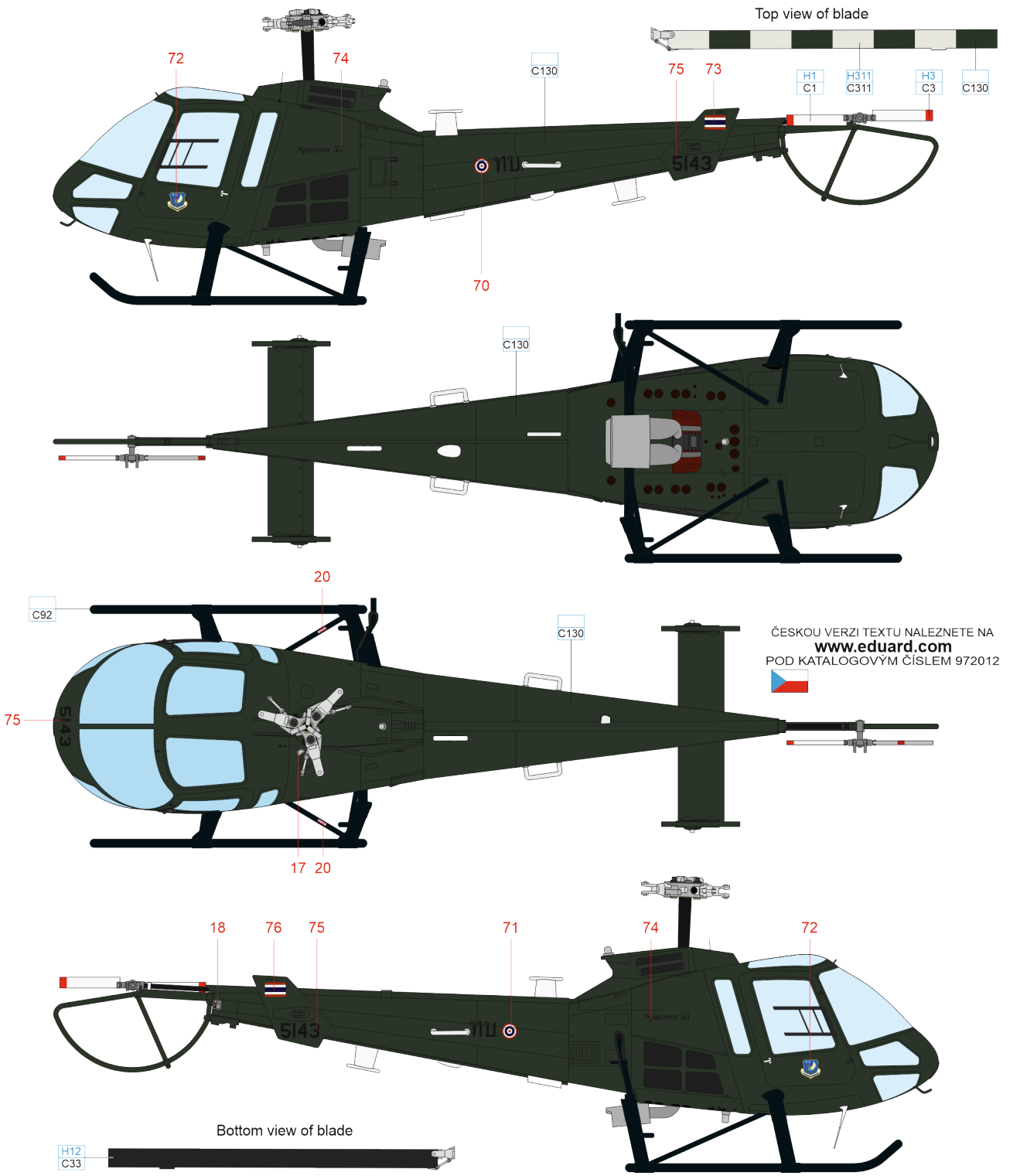


ČESKOU VERZI TEXTU NALEZNETE NA
www.eduard.com
POD KATALOGOVÝM ČÍSLEM 972012

WHITE	H1 C1	BLACK	H12 C33	YELLOW	H329 C329	RED	H3 C3	GRAY	H311 C311	BLACK	C92

E Enstrom TH-480B, Royal Thai Air Force, Lopburi Air Base, Thailand, January 2012

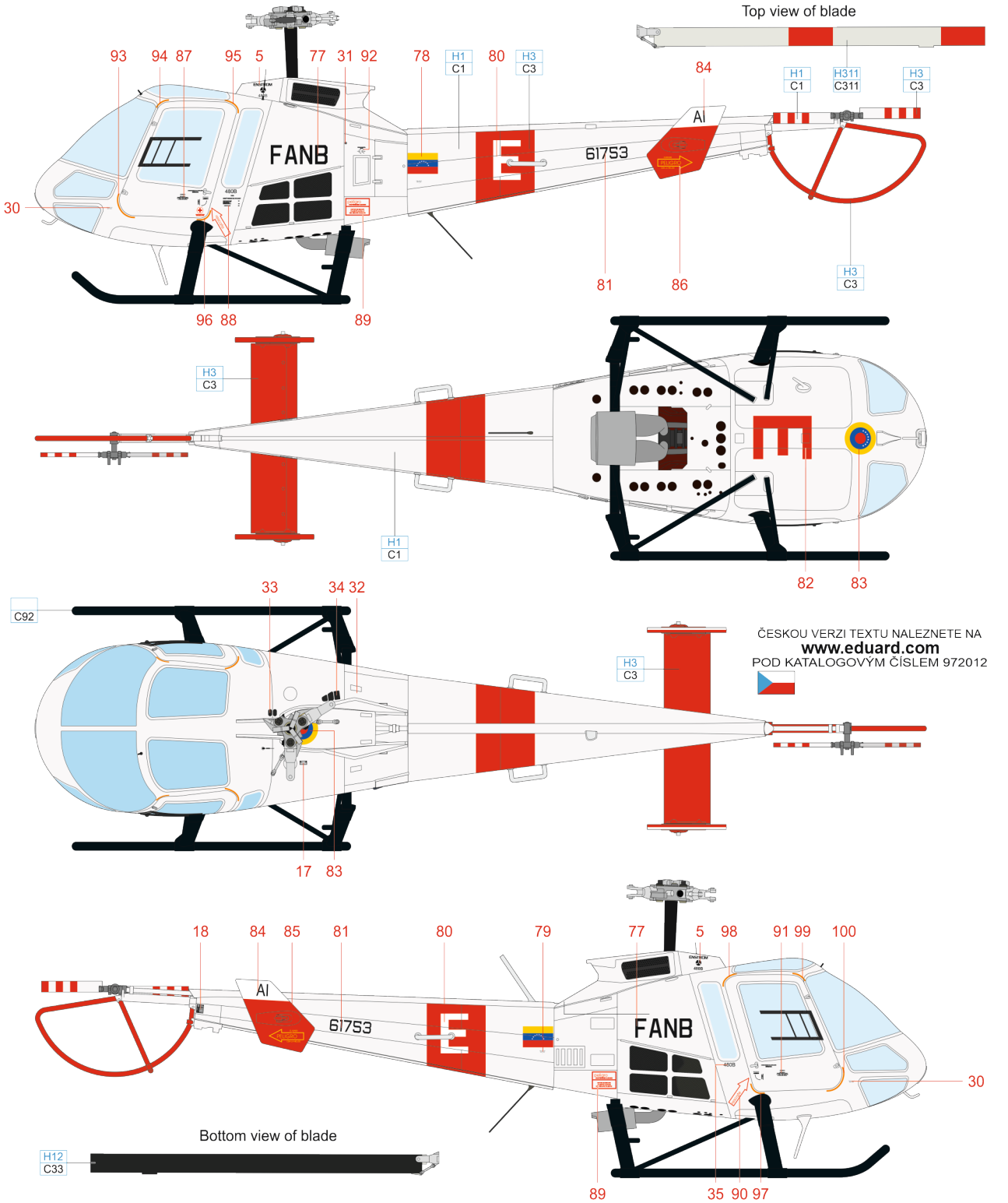
In 2012, Enstrom Helicopter Corp delivered 16 of its 480B training and utility helicopters to the Royal Thai Army (RTA).



WHITE	H1 C1	BLACK	H12 C33	DARK GREEN	C130	RED	H3 C3	GRAY	H311 C311	BLACK	C92

F Enstrom 480B, Venezuela Air Force, Maracay - Base Aerea Mariscal Sucre, Venezuela, August 2020

At Maracay Air Base, the Venezuelan Air Force and Navy use 16 Enstrom 480B training helicopters to train military pilots.



WHITE	H1 C1	BLACK	H12 C33	RED	H3 C3	GRAY	H311 C311	BLACK	C92

NOTES