

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Vehicle Recorder Division

Washington, DC 20594

August 29, 2012

Electronic Device Report

Specialist's Factual Report

By Bill Tuccio

1. EVENT

Location: Veneta, Oregon
Date: June 23, 2012
Aircraft: Cessna 172, N5781A
Operator: Private
NTSB Number: WPR12FA274

2. GROUP

A group was not convened.

3. SUMMARY

On June 23, 2012, about 1513 Pacific daylight time (PDT), a Cessna 172, N5781A, collided with trees and terrain during takeoff initial climb from runway 15 at the Crow-Mag Airport (OR33), near Veneta, Oregon. The commercial pilot and three passengers were fatally injured and the airplane sustained substantial damage. The airplane was registered to a private individual and operated by the pilot under the provisions of Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 91 as a personal flight. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed and no flight plan was filed. The local flight was originating at the time of the accident.

4. DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION

On June 29, 2012, the NTSB Vehicle Recorder Division's Laboratory received the following device:

Recorder Manufacturer/Model: **Apple iPhone 4**
Recorder Serial Number: **DQ5HD1KMNDP0N**

4.1. iPhone Description

The Apple iPhone is a touch-screen smart-phone capable of voice calling, text messaging, email, photo/video recording, audio (music) playback, and numerous other specialized functions depending on configuration. Specialized

functions are supported by additional user-installed program applications (Apps). Application data is stored in non-volatile memory and may include call logs, text messaging logs, image, video, and position location information. In addition, the specialized application data may be stored in a proprietary file structure using numerous file formats. The amount and type of data stored varies based on the software version and configuration of the specific device.

4.2. iPhone Damage

Upon arrival at the audio laboratory, it was evident that the iPhone had not sustained any heat or structural damage and the recorded information was extracted from the device normally, without difficulty

4.2.1. iPhone Files

The iPhone contained a large number of media files, communications, and applications. After review, it was determined one of the still photos taken at 14:44:51 PDT and one, 23 second onboard video taken at 15:12:12 PDT were pertinent to the investigation. The onboard video is described in a separate report.

4.3. Timing and Correlation

Times expressed in this report are based upon file time stamps recorded by the iPhone in local accident time, PDT.

4.4. Summary of Photo

4.4.1. Still Images

Figure 1 is a photo of the accident aircraft taken at 14:44:51 PDT. The photo shows the front left engine cowl and aircraft propeller. The background shows partly cloudy sky conditions about a half hour before the accident and part of the airport environment.

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Figure 1: Front left engine cowling and propeller, 14:44:51 PDT

