

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Vehicle Recorder Division
Washington, D.C. 20594

August 30, 2017

Electronic Devices

Specialist's Factual Report
By Bill Tuccio, Ph.D.

1. EVENT SUMMARY

Location: Teterboro, New Jersey
Date: May 15, 2017
Aircraft: Gates Learjet 35A
Registration: N452DA
Operator: Trans-Pacific Air Charter LLC dba Trans-Pacific Jets
NTSB Number: CEN17MA183

2. GROUP

A group was not convened.

3. DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) Vehicle Recorder Division received the following devices:

Device Manufacturer/Model: **Apple iPhone 5S**
Serial Number: **Unknown**

Device Manufacturer/Model: **Universal FMS UNS-1K**
Serial Number: **Unknown**

3.1. Device Description

The Apple iPhone is a personal electronic device capable of calls, text messaging, email, and mobile computing. Damage to the other device was such that no effort was made to identify the device manufacturer/model.

The Universal FMS UNS-1K is a flight management system (FMS). The system has a 5" screen along with an alpha-numeric keypad. The FMS is used by the flight crew to enter flight plans as well as communicate navigational and limited maintenance information, among other functions.

3.2. Device Conditions

Upon arrival at the Vehicle Recorder Laboratory, an examination revealed both units had suffered impact and fire damage. Figure 1 shows the iPhone, figure 2 shows the Universal FMS UNS-1K.

Figure 1. iPhone 5S, with inset showing internal component board.



Figure 2. Universal FMS UNS-1K



3.3. Data Description

The NTSB unsuccessfully attempted to repair the iPhone 5S. The iPhone was then sent to a forensic vendor, who also unsuccessfully attempted a repair. Given the extent of the damage, no data was recovered from the iPhone.

Damage to the Universal FMS UNS-1K destroyed all internal components. No recovery was possible.