

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Vehicle Recorder Division
Washington, D.C. 20594

November 14, 2017

Fuel Monitor

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

1. EVENT SUMMARY

Location: Canton, Georgia
Date: March 4, 2017
Aircraft: Cessna 421B
Registration: N421KL
Operator: Private
NTSB Number: ERA17FA118

2. GROUP

A group was not convened.

3. DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION

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

Device Manufacturer/Model:	JPI FS-450
Serial Number:	12033

3.1. Device Description

The JPI FS-450 is a fuel monitoring device, capable of displaying instantaneous fuel flow, fuel used, and fuel remaining for each engine. Fuel used and remaining are determined by real time integration of instantaneous fuel flow over time (also known as totalizing). Fuel used and remaining values are dependent upon pilot input when the unit is initially powered to reset fuel used and set fuel on board. The unit does not record historical information; however, it does retain the last fuel used and fuel remaining values between power cycles.

3.2. Device Condition

Upon arrival at the Vehicle Recorder Laboratory, an external examination revealed the unit had sustained impact damage, separating the front and back of the unit, as shown in

figure 1. An internal examination revealed an electrical component was charred, as shown in figure 2.

Figure 1. JPI FS-450 as received.

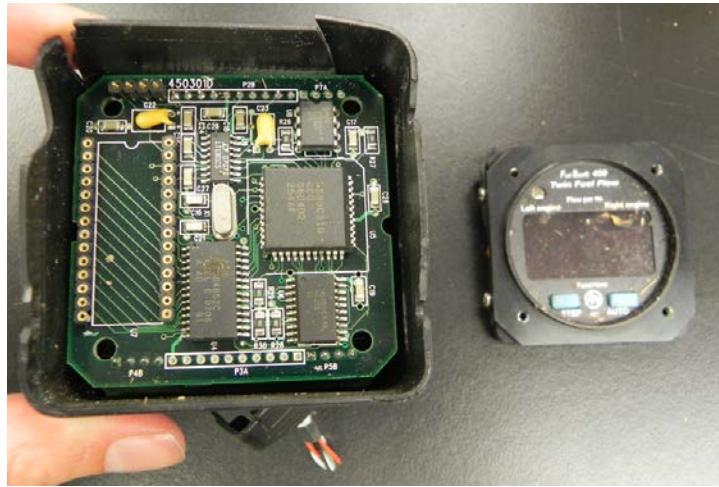
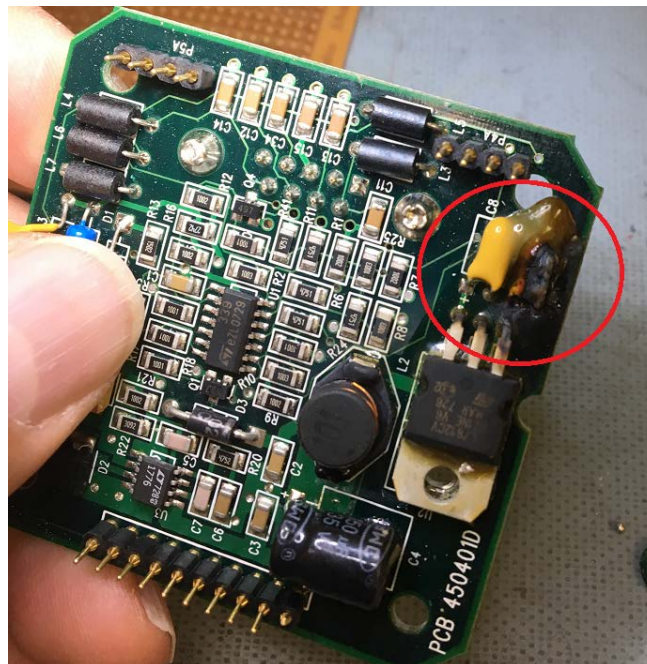


Figure 2. Damaged internal component.



3.3. Data Description

The two halves were reconnected and power applied, however the unit would not start. No further recovery efforts were attempted and no data was recovered.