

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Vehicle Recorder Division
Washington, D.C. 20594

July 10, 2014

Cell Phone

Specialist's Factual Report
by **Bill Tuccio, Ph.D.**

1. EVENT

Location: Aurora, Colorado
Date: March 19, 2014
Aircraft: Smith Aerostar 6011P
Registration: N90464
Operator: Private
NTSB Number: CEN14FA163

On March 19, 2014, about 1650 mountain daylight time, N90464, a Smith Aerostar 601P twin engine airplane was destroyed when it collided with terrain while conducting low level aerobatics near Aurora, Colorado. The airline transport rated pilot/registered owner was fatally injured. No flight plan was filed for the local flight that departed Front Range Airport (FTG), Denver, Colorado. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed for the personal flight conducted under 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 91.

2. DETAILS OF DEVICE INVESTIGATION

The Safety Board's Vehicle Recorder Division received the following device:

Device 1: Samsung Galaxy S III Mini
Device 1 Serial Number: R31DB1A6P4E

2.1. Samsung Galaxy S III Mini Cell Phone Description

The Samsung Galaxy S III Mini is a touch-screen smartphone 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 supported by the Android operating system. Application data is stored in non-volatile memory¹ and a removable microSD card, 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.

¹ Non-volatile memory is semiconductor memory that does not require external power for data retention.

2.1.1. Samsung Galaxy S III Mini Cell Phone Data Recovery

Upon arrival at the Vehicle Recorder Laboratory, an exterior examination revealed that the unit had sustained minor impact damage, including damage to the touch screen, as shown in figure 1. An internal inspection revealed no internal device damage and an undamaged 16GB microSD storage card. The phone was repaired and the contents of the phone and the microSD storage card were examined.

Figure 1. Samsung Galaxy S III Mini.



2.1.2. Samsung Galaxy S III Mini Cell Phone Data Description

None of the information retrieved from the device was pertinent to the investigation.