

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Vehicle Recorder Division
Washington, D.C. 20594

September 1, 2015

Personal Electronic Device

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

1. EVENT SUMMARY

Location: Rowdy, Kentucky
Date: May 21, 2015
Aircraft: Grumman AA-5A
Registration: N26886
Operator: Private
NTSB Number: ERA15FA220

2. GROUP

A group was not convened.

3. DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION

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

Device Manufacturer/Model:	Apple iPhone 6
Serial Number:	Unknown

3.1. Device Description

PEDs are a category of devices comprised primarily of portable computing devices and mobile phones. Portable computing devices are typically capable of internet access, email, messaging services, and can run user-installed applications to perform specific tasks. Depending on the model, mobile phones can perform many of the same tasks as portable computing devices, plus have voice call and text messaging capabilities. PED user and system data is typically stored on non-volatile memory¹ and can be accessed through manufacturer-provided interfaces.

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

3.2. Device Condition

Upon arrival at the NTSB Vehicle Recorder Division, an examination revealed the unit had sustained significant impact damage, as shown in figures 1 and 2. The internal main circuit board was broken, as shown in figure 2.



Figure 1. Photo of damaged unit



Figure 2. Photo of damaged unit, internal.

3.3. Data Description

This device is capable of storing data in the non-volatile memory; however, the extent of the damage precluded any data recovery. Therefore, no data were recovered.