

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Vehicle Recorder Division
Washington, D.C. 20594

July 25, 2017

Personal Electronic Device

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

1. EVENT SUMMARY

Location: Queens Village, New York
Date: June 10, 2017
Operator: Long Island Rail Road (LIRR)
NTSB Number: DCA17FR009

2. GROUP

A personal electronic device (PED) group was not convened.

3. DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION

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

Device Manufacturer/Model:	iPhone SE
Serial Number:	IMEI: 358542075322015

According to the Investigator-in-Charge, the device belonged to the person struck by the train.

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.

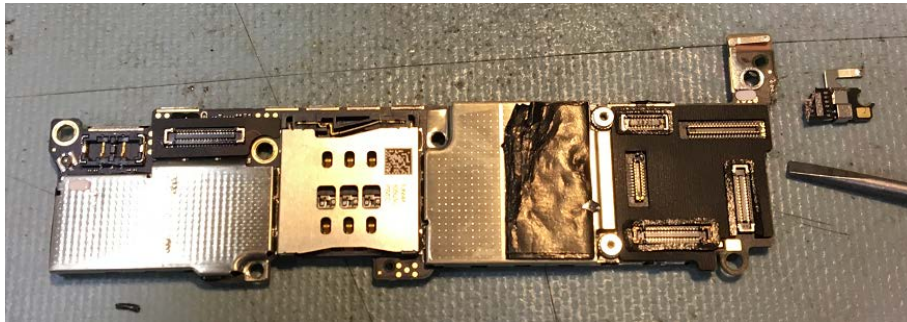
3.2. Device Condition

Upon arrival at the Vehicle Recorder Laboratory, an examination revealed the unit had sustained significant impact damage, as shown in figure 1. An internal inspection revealed the main component board was compromised, as shown by the detached piece in the upper right hand corner of figure 2.

Figure 1. iPhone SE, as received.



Figure 2. iPhone SE, main component board.



3.3. Data Description

This device is capable of storing data in the non-volatile memory. The extent of the damage precluded normal recovery procedures and additional attempts were unsuccessful in yielding usable data. Therefore, no data pertinent to the event were recovered.