

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Vehicle Recorder Division
Washington, D.C. 20594

March 1, 2016

Personal Electronic Devices

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

1. EVENT SUMMARY

Location: Wichita, Kansas
Date: September 25, 2015
Aircraft: Cessna T310Q
Registration: N301JA
Operator: Private
NTSB Number: CEN15FA425

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 devices (PEDs):

Device Manufacturer/Model:	Apple iPad Mini
Serial Number:	DLXQC2HTGHKJ

Device Manufacturer/Model:	Nokia Smartphone
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 Conditions

Upon arrival at the Vehicle Recorder Laboratory, an examination revealed the units had sustained significant impact damage, as shown in figures 1 and 2.

Figure 1. Apple iPad.



Figure 2. Nokia Smartphone.



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. Furthermore, efforts to read the SIM card of the Nokia Smartphone were unsuccessful.