

From: [Folkerts Michael](#)
To: [Folkerts Michael](#)
Subject: EAA perspective on fuel line clamp
Date: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 9:21:22 AM

From: Timm Bogenhagen
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 8:55 AM
To: Tom Charpentier
Subject: RE: MiniMax accident - request perspective on fuel line clamp (plastic)

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Mike,

As a person who has built a Minimax, Tom asked me to respond to your email. That type of clamp is not uncommon, I have seen them used for fuel line connections, I have myself used this style clamp for my fuel system. They are commonly available from aircraft supply companies. It looks like the wrong size clamp was used, and as your video shows it did not provide tight clamping pressure and seal around the fuel inlet nipple.

I hope this helps, let me know if I can be of assistance.

Thanks

Timm

Timm Bogenhagen, EAA #379292
Member Programs Specialist
Ultralight & Light-Plane Community Manager
EAA—*The Spirit of Aviation*

www.eaa.org

See you at EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2021 — July 26 to August 1, 2021

From: Tom Charpentier
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 9:20 AM
To: Timm Bogenhagen
Subject: FW: MiniMax accident - request perspective on fuel line clamp (plastic)

Timm,

As a Lindy winning Minimaxer I thought you'd be best equipped to answer this one. Mike is one of our NTSB friends, good guy.

Tom

From: Folkerts Michael

Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 8:38 AM

To: Tom Charpentier

Subject: FW: MiniMax accident - request perspective on fuel line clamp (plastic)

Hi Tom,

Hope you are well.

I'm working a power loss accident that likely involved a fuel line/clamp issue allowing air into the system.

Attached is exam and a video, and here is some narrative:

Examination of the engine revealed that the fuel supply line to the inlet fitting of the vacuum driven fuel pump was loose on the fitting. Although the clamp on the inlet fitting had been tightened to its maximum clamping position, the fuel supply line was still loose on the fitting, which made it possible for air to enter the fuel system.

Would like to get your perspectives regarding use of this type of plastic clamp.

Thanks very much

Mike

Blue Skies ..

Mike Folkerts

National Transportation Safety Board, Central Region