

National Transportation Safety Board

Office of Research and Engineering

Washington, DC 20594



ANC23FA056

PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Specialist's Factual Report

November 9, 2023

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A. ACCIDENT

Location: Wainwright, Alaska
Date: July 20, 2023
Time: 1105 Alaska daylight time (AKDT)
Helicopter: Bell 206L-4, N311MH

B. PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES SPECIALIST

Specialist: Gerald Kawamoto
Recorder Specialist
National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB)

C. DETAILS OF THE INVESTIGATION

A personal electronic devices (PEDs) group was not convened.

The NTSB Vehicle Recorder Division received the following PEDs:

Device Manufacturer/Model: Apple iPhone 11 Pro Max
Part Number: A2161
IMEI Number: 352853110521768

Device Manufacturer/Model: Samsung Galaxy S22
Part Number: SM-S901U
IMEI Number: 350744862028502

1.0 Personal Electronic 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 memory and can be accessed through manufacturer-provided interfaces.¹

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

1.1 Data Recovery

Both devices had been submerged in water during the accident event, rendering them inoperable. The devices were inspected prior to being shipped to the Vehicle Recorder Laboratory, and the internal battery from each device was removed. Figures 1 and 2 show the devices as received by the Vehicle Recorder Laboratory. Internal examinations showed damage to the motherboard of each device, shown in figures 3 and 4. 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.



Figure 1. Apple iPhone 11 Pro Max received.



Figure 2. Samsung Galaxy S22 as received.

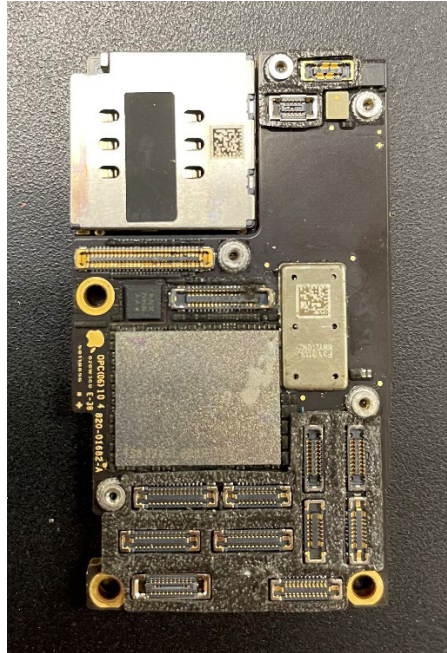


Figure 3. Apple iPhone 11 Pro Max motherboard.

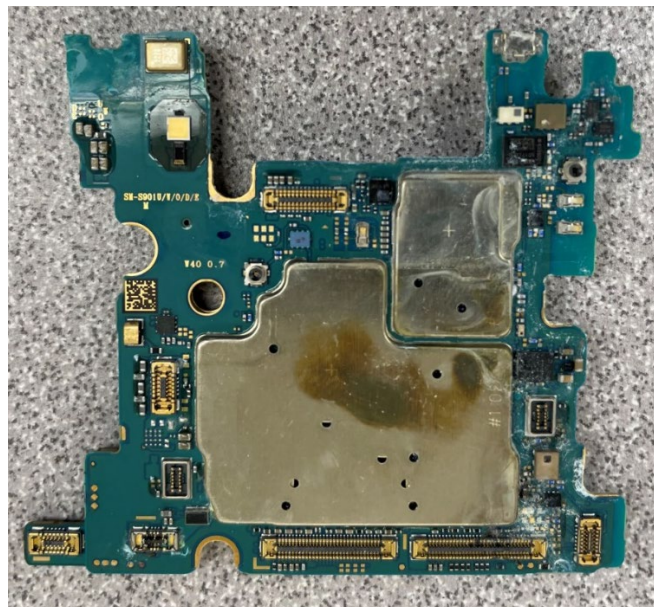


Figure 4. Samsung Galaxy S22 motherboard.

Submitted by:

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Recorder Specialist