



RECORD OF CORRESPONDENCE

Michael J. Folkerts
Aviation Accident Investigator
Central Region

NTSB Accident Number: CEN18LA038

Mr. Bill Frison was seated in the front seat of the airplane during the accident and provided the following information and perspectives:

- The rear seat pilot had not flown in several months, so he sat in the front seat and acted in the role of a safety pilot
- Following a normal takeoff, they flew maneuvers for about 15 minutes at a nearby practice area
- While the rear seat pilot flew the airplane back for a landing, he noticed the engine lose power and that the fuel shutoff valve had been pulled out.
- He attempted to push the fuel shutoff valve back in but was unable to twist his arm into a position to do so.
- During the forced landing, the airplane hit a tree and nosed over to about 45 degrees nose low.
- Gas poured onto his legs, but a post-crash fire did not occur.
- Earlier in the year, both pilots frequently flew an airplane with a carburetor heat control lever that was in a similar position as the accident airplane's fuel shutoff valve.
- The rear pilot stated he may have inadvertently pulled the fuel shut off lever instead of the carburetor heat control lever.