

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Vehicle Recorder Division
Washington, D.C. 20594

August 27, 2013

Mobile Phone Device

Specialist's Factual Report By Ben Hsu

1. EVENT

Location: Winston Salem, North Carolina
Date: March 31, 2013
Aircraft/ID: LANCAIR LC43-550FG / N6506L
Operator: Private
NTSB Number: ERA13FA184

2. DETAILS OF DEVICE INVESTIGATION

The Safety Board's Vehicle Recorder Division received the following device:

Device: Apple iPhone 4S
Device Serial Number: Unknown

The Apple iPhone 4S was severely damaged by fire and impact forces (Figure 1). The device was examined using laboratory hardware and software, but no data could be recovered.

2.1. Apple iPhone 4S Device Description

The Apple iPhone 4S is a touchscreen smartphone capable of voice calls, text messaging, email, photo/video recording, and many other functions depending on the specific application(s) loaded. Data is stored on *non-volatile*¹ memory and may include call logs, text messaging logs, photos, videos, and location information. The amount and types of data stored varies based on the device's software version and configuration.

2.1.1. Apple iPhone 4S Data Description

No data could be recovered from the device.

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

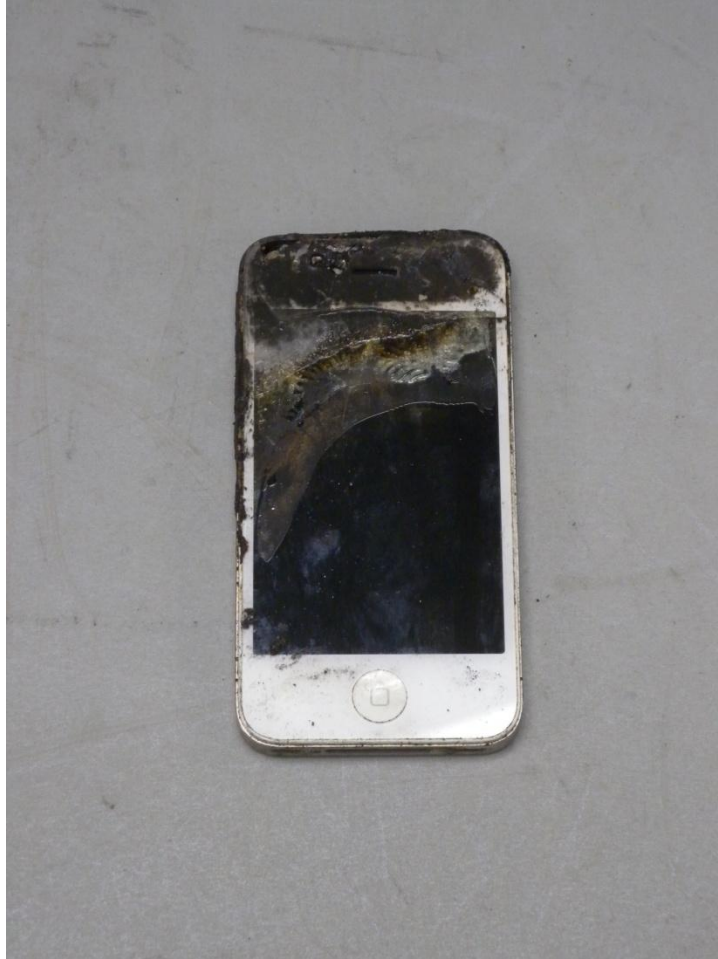


Figure 1: Apple iPhone 4S (S/N: Unknown)