



MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

Heidi Moats
Air Safety Investigator
Eastern Region Aviation

December 7, 2015

Subject: ERA14LA374 – Wreckage Examination

Who: Joseph Arvay – FAA Maintenance Inspector

In a conversation with Inspector Arvay, he stated the following:

- About a week or two before the accident, the airplane was flying at an altitude of about 7000 feet when the engine quit. The instructor landed the airplane at Apalachicola Airport (AAR) and they found water in the gascolator bowl during a subsequent examination.
- The accident flight was the first flight after maintenance.
- The fuel tank selector was located in the "Both" position.
- Both fuel tanks contained fuel.
- A chunk of sealant was noted in the left wing tank fuel line to the engine.
- The sealant looked "fresh."
- Upon examining the maintenance records, there was no documentation of when the sealant was applied to the fuel tank.
- Only the most recent maintenance in the maintenance log was an annual inspection, which was about a month before the accident.
- After the accident, the owner/mechanic:
 - o pulled the fuel filters and no debris was noted.
 - o Confirmed engine continuity to the accessory section of the engine by rotating the propeller.
 - o Started the engine and it ran without any anomalies noted.
- Wreckage – the FAA inspector released the wreckage prior to obtaining copies of the maintenance records.
- The owner sold the airplane wreckage after it was released to him.