

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Vehicle Recorder Division
Washington, D.C. 20594

October 2, 2018

Personal Electronic Device

Specialist's Factual Report
By Sean Payne

1. EVENT SUMMARY

Location: Clearwater, Florida
Date: May 5, 2017
Aircraft: Cirrus SR22
Registration: 2619
Operator: Cirrus Aircraft Corporation
NTSB Number: ERA17FA174

On May 5, 2017, about 1922 eastern daylight time, a Cirrus SR22, N271TS, impacted terrain while attempting to land on runway 16 at the Clearwater Airpark (CLW), Clearwater, Florida. The private pilot was fatally injured and the airplane sustained substantial damage. The airplane was registered to a private company and operated as a Title 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 91 personal flight. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed at the airport at the time of the accident. No flight plan was filed for the flight that departed Marion County Airport (MAO), Mullins, South Carolina, about 1620.

2. GROUP

A group was not convened.

3. DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) Vehicle Recorder Division received the following personal electronic device (PED):

Device Manufacturer/Model:	Apple iPad Pro
Serial Number:	DMPRD8DAGXQ5

3.1. 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 memory¹ and can be accessed through manufacturer-provided interfaces.

3.2. Data Recovery

The device arrived at the laboratory showing signs of heavy impact damage. The screen was shattered, and the iPad's chassis was bent in places. The iPad's internal memory board was removed and determined to be in good condition. The internal memory board was placed in a surrogate and the device powered normally. The device was passcode locked with a four-digit passcode.



Figure 1. Photo of damaged iPad Pro.

4. DEVICE INVESTIGATION

4.1. Apple iPad Pro

The device was rebuilt using a surrogate iPad. The device was found to be locked with a four-digit passcode. The passcode was not obtained, and the iPad could not be unlocked. No data was recovered from the device.

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