



NTSB RECORD OF CONVERSATION

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Date: 6/18/2018

Person Contacted: David S. Shanahan (Inspector, Allegheny FSDO/ FAA)

NTSB Accident Number: ERA18LA163

Narrative:

The following is a summary of a conversation that occurred with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) inspector who interviewed the pilot in command. The following was what the pilot reported:

- The engine was a GM Ecotech, which was fuel injected, had four cylinders, and was an automobile converted engine.
- The pilot installed an aftermarket fuel regulator computer, and he modified the mapping software that affected the fuel delivery to the engine. The engine had difficulty starting sometimes, which was why he modified the fuel computer's programming to enable easier engine starts.
- The engine about one month prior to the accident "burnt through a piston."
- During the run-up on the day of the accident, the engine was "not as strong" as it should have been, but he decided to fly anyways.
- The pilot believed that the fuel mapping software modification that he wrote caused a lean running engine, which was evident during the run-up, and subsequently resulted in an engine failure during flight.