



Aaron McCarter  
Aviation Accident Investigator  
Eastern Region

**Date:** November 23, 2022

**Subject:** ERA23LA065: Telecon with FAA on origin of damage.

**Contact:** FAA Inspector Cody Watson @ 703-230-7664 cody.watson@faa.gov

Follow up call discussing the presentation and origin of the fire. FAA Inspector Watson stated that there were numerous obvious signs of electrical arcing on the alternator wire and surrounding structure.

The metal clamp that secured the wire was melted and there was electrical pitting where it was attached. About 30 percent of the clamp was missing and the rest of the clamp was black and damaged.

It appears that the clamp was either loose or too big for the wire. Hard to tell which because the clamp was severely damaged. Vibrations eventually wore through and caused chafing. Once the wires were exposed there was arcing during engine start.

The fuel line was close to where the arcing took place. According to the pilot, from initial smoke to the front of the airplane being completely engulfed was no more than 5 minutes.

[END]