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Aviation Accident Investigator
Eastern

Date: October 31, 2024

Subject: ERA25LA030; N511JG

Contact: Tyler C. Roche; Aviation Safety Inspector
Allegheny Flight Standards District Office

and [REDACTED]

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Inspector Roche and Novotny examined the airplane after the accident. On Thursday October 17, 2024, at 1417 eastern, N511JG lost engine power and had a forced landing on the departure runway. The pilot stated that there were no abnormalities during preflight or taxi. Shortly after departure, the engine started backfiring, misfiring then failed about 400 ft above ground level. The pilot pushed the nose forward and had a hard landing on runway 8 (AOO) He was not injured.

Post accident examination revealed substantial damage. The propeller did not exhibit any rotational damage. The lower engine cowl contacted the runway during landing. The right landing gear was compressed. The axle assembly separated from the trunnion leg. The left inboard wing was buckled and warped aft. The left landing gear was bent and the root where it attached to the fuselage was buckled.

Engine/crankshaft continuity was confirmed. The magnetos produced spark and there was compression on each cylinder. The fuel filter bowl (gascolator) was installed partially outside of the engine compartment and hung below the cowling in the slipstream. (Figure 1) When it was examined, fuel started leaking substantially when light finger pressure was applied in an aft direction. Upon further examination, the gasket was stiff and had a crack in it which allowed fuel to escape. (Figure 2)



Figure 1 Gascolator/fuel bowl installed as discovered was installed partially outside of the engine compartment.

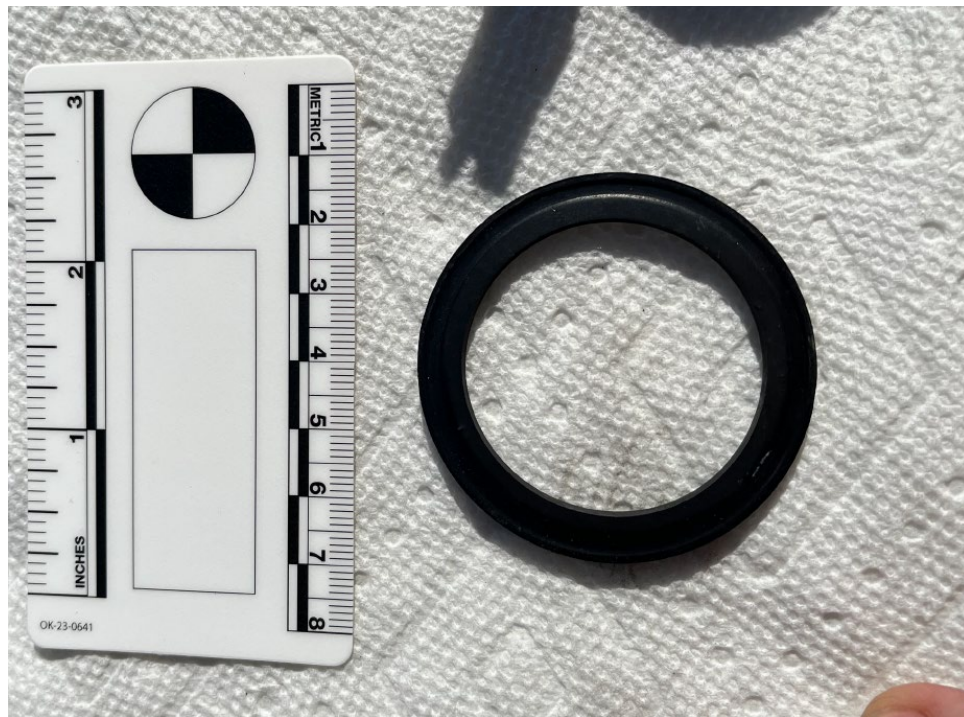


Figure 2 After removal and examination of the gascolator; Gasket seal was stiff and cracked.