

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Office of Research and Engineering
Materials Laboratory Division
Washington, D.C. 20594



May 2, 2018

MATERIALS LABORATORY FACTUAL REPORT

Report No. 18-036

A. ACCIDENT INFORMATION

Place : San Diego, California
Date : December 12, 2017
Vehicle : Beech A36, N248SB
NTSB No. : WPR18FA046
Investigator : Maja Smith, AS-WPR

B. COMPONENTS EXAMINED

Fuel selector valve.

C. DETAILS OF THE EXAMINATION

Figure 1 shows a photograph of the as-received fuel selector valve. The fuel selector valve was covered with black soot and the ends of various tubes had solidified consistent with exposure to heat from a fire. The exterior portion of the valve was rubbed with the end of a cotton swab. The end of the cotton swab was subjected to a phenolphthalein presumptive blood test.¹ The test produced a positive result, indicating the presence of blood.

Frank Zakar
Senior Metallurgist

¹ The test kit was manufactured by Morris-Kopec Forensics, Inc., Altamonte Springs, Florida.



Figure 1. Photograph of the as-received fuel selector valve.