



For more information contact:
John Niehaus
Director of Program Development
National Association of Flight Instructors
(269) 355-6500
jniehaus@nafinet.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TOM STEHLER EARNS NAFI MASTER INSTRUCTOR ACCREDITATION

KALAMAZOO, MI — 4/1/2023 The National Association of Flight Instructors is proud to announce that NAFI member Tom Stehler has earned his second NAFI Master Flight Instructor accreditation.

A native of the St. Paul, Minnesota area, Stehler attended Purdue University where he worked as a corporate pilot and check instructor after graduation. He founded Purdue's winning team for the newly formed collegiate class of EAA's AirVenture Cup Race in 2019. Stehler is now a captain on the Boeing 737 at Sun Country Airlines, as well as the chief flight instructor at Lake Elmo Aero in Lake Elmo, Minnesota. He has



experience in many different single and multi-engine aircraft, with more than 1,200 hours of flight instruction provided. He recently purchased a 1950 Cessna 140A to go on even more flying adventures.

*The **NAFI Master Flight Instructor Accreditation** is earned by aviation educators based upon a system of advanced professional standards and peer review. The accreditation identifies and publicly recognizes those teachers of flight who demonstrate an ongoing commitment to excellence, professional growth, and service to the aviation community. The NAFI Master Instructor accreditation is for two years and may be used to renew an FAA flight instructor certificate. Applicants must have been a CFI for two years and have given 1,000 hours of flight instruction. In addition, candidates must meet and document activity in four NAFI Master Instructor categories (Instructor, Educator, Service to the Aviation Community, and Professional Activity).*

Members of the **National Association of Flight Instructors** work as independent instructors, at flight schools, universities, FBOs, corporate flight departments and in the military. Since 1967, NAFI and its members, who teach in thirty countries, are dedicated to increasing and maintaining the professionalism of flight instruction. NAFI members influence active pilots daily: students working to become pilots, current pilots training to advance their skills with new ratings or certificates and pilots who seek to improve their skills with recurrent training. NAFI also serves as an advocate with industry and government as a voice for flight instruction. NAFI helps shape the current and future direction of flight training. For more information about NAFI or the NAFI Master Instructor program call **866-806-6156** or visit www.NAFINet.org.