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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NAOYA 'TAMA' TAMANAHA EARNS NAFI MASTER INSTRUCTOR ACCREDITATION

KALAMAZOO, MI — 8/05/2021 The National Association of Flight Instructors is proud to announce that NAFI member Naoya “Tama” Tamanaha has earned accreditation as a NAFI Master Flight Instructor. This is Tamanaha’s second NAFI Master accreditation.



In 1991, Tama left Japan to become a pilot in the United States. Overwhelmed by the generosity of the U.S. skies and the scale of the aviation

communities, he earned his CFI and CFII, and returned to Japan fascinated by American aviation culture. Although he earned his commercial pilot license in Japan, there were no jobs in Japan in that era, but a connection with a flight training center of a U.S. military base in Japan led him to start his pilot career. He says it is no exaggeration to say that he has been supported by the generosity of the United States since returning to Japan. He has trained over 700 pilots as an instructor and has issued over 200 FAA pilot certificates or ratings as a DPE at the U.S. military base in Japan. He added his glider and single engine seaplane ratings in Hawaii.

In 2009, He founded a flight school specializing in flight simulator training to introduce American-style training to the Japanese aviation industry. He continues to expand the base of his activities to connect Asia and the United States from the perspective of pilot training.

*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 30 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.*