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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### **JAMES KAPENAS EARNS NAFI MASTER INSTRUCTOR ACCREDITATION**

KALAMAZOO, MI. **5/16/2014** The National Association of Flight Instructors (NAFI) is proud to announce that NAFI member James Kapenas has earned accreditation as a NAFI Master Flight Instructor.

Kapenas is a 7400 hr Airline Transport Pilot and currently a full time Gold Seal/Senior instructor with one of the largest flying clubs in the world consisting of over 1400 members and 60 aircraft.

After high school, Kapenas spent four years in the USMC infantry and then attended the University of Massachusetts, graduating Summa Cum Laude with a degree in English and History. He then moved to San Diego to begin his flying career in the year 2000.



Kapenas specializes in private pilot through ATP training as well as all cfi candidates and advanced avionics transition training. He is the founder and chief pilot of San Diego Sky Tours and has recently begun a foray into the charter world flying a King Air B100 and an Eclipse jet.

The **NAFI Master Flight Instructor** program is the longest running and most prestigious FAA accredited master flight instructor program in the industry. The NAFI Master 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).

The **National Association of Flight Instructors (NAFI)** purpose is to establish and promote a high level of professionalism among aviation educators and to provide recognition for their contributions to aviation safety, education and training. NAFI members teach in 17 countries in flight schools, universities, FBO's, corporate flight departments, the military and as independent flight instructors. Founded in 1967 NAFI works with industry and government to help shape the direction of flight training and to serve as a voice for flight instruction. For more information about NAFI or the NAFI Master Instructor program call 866-806-6156 or visit [www.NAFINet.org](http://www.NAFINet.org).