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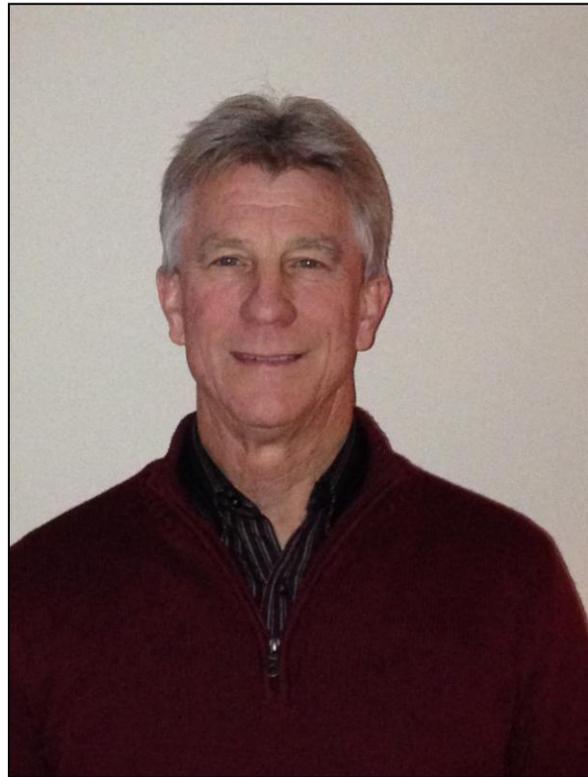
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**JOSEPH KOTOWSKI EARNS NAFI MASTER INSTRUCTOR ACCREDITATION**

**KALAMAZOO, MI — 4/12/2016** The National Association of Flight Instructors is proud to announce that NAFI member Joseph Kotowski has earned accreditation as a NAFI Master Flight Instructor.

Kotowski's says his interest in aviation began with his father, who was in the Army Air Corp in World War II, and a family friend who was an aircraft owner that he flew with as a young person. Kotowski then bought a partnership in a C-172 in 1980 and started taking lessons, and later partnered in a C-182 and a T-210.

Kotowski worked in the power industry for 36 years as an engineer. Though he enjoyed his work in the power industry he says he always longed for a career in aviation, and in 2009 he obtained his CFI and worked part-time as an instructor, He retired in 2012 and began a full-time career in aviation. Kotowski currently holds an ATP, MEI, and CFI-I and private glider certificate.



"I am currently Chief Flight Instructor at a local FBO and have found flight instruction rewarding and enjoy the challenge of finding the right approach for instructing people with varied backgrounds and experience," Kotowski said. "... I believe it is important for all Instructors to help improve our industry's safety record, promote the interest of young people, and help ensure the future of General Aviation. To that end I conduct safety seminars, contribute as a FAA Safety Team Representative, and participate in Civil Air Patrol and other aviation organizations. I also fly for our company's charter operation in a King

Air C90 and Citation Bravo. This constant learning and expanding of experience is what drives my passion in aviation, and I have found this is true of most pilots."

*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, FBOs, 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).*