



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MICHAEL SCHWAHN EARNS NAFI MASTER INSTRUCTOR ACCREDITATION

KALAMAZOO, MI **1/07/2014** The National Association of Flight Instructors is proud to announce that NAFI member Michael Schwahn has earned accreditation as a NAFI Master Flight Instructor.

Schwahn is a born and raised Montana resident who was first introduced to aviation at the age of 16. Aviation was always been a part of his life growing up, but the decision to make it into a career didn't come until September 2006. While studying mechanical engineering at Montana State University, Schwahn decided to pursue aviation as a full-time major. His first flight lesson ensued through Summit Aviation and he soloed in October 2006. He received his Private, Instrument and Commercial ratings at Summit Aviation and added Airplane Single Engine Sea in south Florida. Schwahn's drive for knowledge kept pushing him towards CFI, CFI-I and eventually through MEI, at which point he was hired by Summit Aviation in 2010.



With only 300 hours total time, Schwahn began instructing. From the beginning of his CFI training until today, he has stood out from his peers with his ability to relate to any individual. This ability to adapt to all learning styles is one of the many reasons he was chosen to be an Assistant Chief Instructor for Summit Aviation.

Schwahn is also a captain for Summit Aviation's charter service and crews a Phenom 100 jet. His ratings include: ATP Multi-Engine, Commercial Single-Engine Land and Sea, CFI, CFI-I, MEI, EMB-500 type and Instrument Ground Instructor. Schwahn has also been recognized by AOPA two years in a row for the Flight Training Excellence Honor Roll.

*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.*