

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Andrew Todd "Drew" SMITH, Master Aviation Educator (*Initial: 9Oct09*)
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Andrew T Smith recently earned his Master Aviation Educator (MAE) accreditation. Drew is an assistant professor and program lead for K-State University's Part 147 Aviation Maintenance Training curriculum (www.Salina.K-State.edu/Aviation) at Salina Municipal Airport (SAL). He also serves as a Designated Mechanic Examiner (DME) for the FAA's Wichita FSDO. **(Photo: MAE Drew Smith of Lindsborg, KS)**

Master Instructors LLC takes great pride in announcing a significant aviation accomplishment on the part of Andrew T Smith, the Kansas State University's Aviation Maintenance Training program lead and resident of Lindsborg, Kansas. Recently, Drew was accredited as a Master Aviation Educator (MAE) by Master Instructors LLC, the international accrediting authority for Master Instructor designations as well as the FAA-approved "Master Instructor Continuing Education Program™."

Master Aviation Educator accreditation recognizes those individuals who work as professional teachers of aviation in industry but who do not hold FAA instructor certification. Fewer than 700 aviation educators worldwide have achieved one or more of the Master accreditations thus far. The last 14 national Flight Instructors of the Year were Masters while Drew is one of only 21 Kansas teachers of flight and one of 6 KSU faculty members to earn this prestigious "Master" title. In the words of former FAA Administrator Marion Blakey, "The Master Instructor accreditation singles out the best that the right seat has to offer."

The Master Instructor designation is a national accreditation recognized by the FAA and must be renewed biennially. Candidates must demonstrate an ongoing commitment to excellence, professional growth, and service to the aviation community, and must pass a rigorous evaluation by a peer Board of Review. The process parallels the continuing education regimen used by other professionals to enhance their knowledge base while increasing their professionalism. Designees are recognized as outstanding aviation educators for not only their excellence in teaching, but for their engagement in the continuous process of learning -- both their own, and their students'.

Please feel free to disseminate this information. Questions regarding the Master Instructor program may be directed to 303-485-8136 or MasterInstrs@aol.com Additional information is available at www.MasterInstructors.org and at the Society of Aviation and Flight Educators (SAFE) website, www.SafePilots.org

