

Chuck Wiplinger President/COO Wipaire, Inc.

Chuck Wiplinger is the President and Chief Operations Officer of Wipaire, Inc. As the third generation of the Wiplinger family to lead Wipaire, Chuck's background is deeply rooted in aviation. Ben Wiplinger, Chuck's grandfather, founded the company in 1960. Chuck's father, Robert "Wip" Wiplinger, is Wipaire's Chief Executive Officer, and Chuck and Wip work closely on a daily basis.

Chuck's involvement at Wipaire dates back to 1996, when he began working part-time in high school under A&P Mechanics. In 2003, Chuck graduated from the University of Minnesota with a bachelor's degree in aerospace engineering and joined Wipaire full-time in the engineering department. He has served as the Vice President of Engineering and rose to the position of Executive Vice President in charge of operations. In January 2011, Chuck was elected to his current position as President and Chief Operations Officer. In October 2011, Chuck was elected to the Board of Directors of GAMA, the General Aviation Manufacturers Association and currently serving as chair of GAMA's Technical Policy Committee.

Chuck also currently serves as a Board Member for the Seaplane Pilots Association and has also served on South St. Paul's Airport Advisory Committee. Other activities include participating in developing Synthesis 61 "Practices in Preserving and Developing Public-Use Seaplane Bases" as part of the Airport Cooperative Research Program which is part of the Transportation Research Board of the National Academies.

Chuck is an active pilot who has been flying since 1996. He has accumulated over 2000 hours of flight time in both powered aircraft and gliders, and is a commercial pilot with multiengine land, multiengine sea, single engine land, and single engine sea ratings. He is also instrument-rated and has private pilot privileges in gliders.