

Steve Petrich
Founder and President
P2 Avionics Technology



Steve Petrich has turned his passion for aviation into a career and a lifestyle — first as a private and commercial airline pilot, and then as an inventor and entrepreneur.

Steve's love of aviation began at a very early age, but his flying officially took off while the rest of his high school classmates were taking driver's education courses. As a senior, Steve earned his private pilot's license and before he reached his 21st birthday, he added his seaplane rating and commercial pilot's license. Within a couple more years, Steve had his Airline Transport Pilot (ATP) license. In the past 30 years, Steve has logged more than 23,000 flight hours in the cockpits of a wide-range of aircraft from single-engine planes to multi-engine seaplanes and commercial airliners — gaining him a wealth of aviation experience and knowledge.

Never wavering in his love for all things aviation, Steve took his expertise and personal observations and created innovative products that were solutions to common problems — enhancing plane safety and streamlining administration activities.

Steve's first aviation job was flying a Cessna 185 floatplane transporting fishermen and tourists into the remote areas of northern Minnesota and western Ontario. While he's flown a variety of aircraft, seaplanes have always been near to his heart. It is from this fondness for seaplanes that his first entrepreneurial venture was born. A product of his frustrations trying to locate seaplane parts and supplies, Steve had the vision of a mail order, one-stop shop for seaplane pilots. In 1983, while still flying full-time as a commercial airline pilot, Steve started Lake & Air — using his townhouse garage as the office, warehouse and fulfillment center. In 1994, he sold Lake & Air to a leading aircraft float manufacturer.

In the early 1990s Steve's personal experience with his own aircraft led him to another innovative idea — the 9600 Amphibian Gear Advisory System. This device was the first one of its kind to market. Today, an estimated 80 percent of the production amphibian aircraft currently have these units onboard.

After selling Lake & Air, Steve formed P2 Aviation Technology Inc. Since then, P2 has been behind some of the industry's most innovative products including:

- 6600 and 6601 Audio Advisory System — A landing gear/Vne overspeed/Stall monitor introduced in 1995
- Sky Buddy — A portable, low-cost heading and altitude reminder introduced in 2005
- TimeTrac — General aviation's first integrated flight record management system introduced in 2006
- Numerous other new products are currently on the drawing board awaiting release.

A true aviation enthusiast, Steve is a proud owner of an Aeronca Champ that he flies on wheels, skis or floats and a Cessna 206 amphibian. Never missing an opportunity to take either up for a flight, Steve logs an average of 125 hours a year in them. When he's not flying, Steve can be reached at 952.472.2577 or steve@P2inc.com.