

MEET OUR INSTRUCTORS:

PETER SCHLAF

DANGEROUS GOODS
INSTRUCTOR



SWIPE



With over three decades in air cargo and logistics, Peter Schlaf brings a level of depth, versatility, and global perspective that elevates every classroom session

From early days at JFK with Lufthansa Cargo to branch management roles at major freight forwarding operations, and now as an instructor at ATP Training, Peter has lived nearly every corner of the industry.

In 1989, Peter began his aviation career as a Warehouse Agent at Lufthansa Cargo in JFK. By 1993, he was already diving into Dangerous Goods regulations — taking their first DG course at the Lufthansa training base in Seeheim, Germany. From there, his career took flight. With 10 years at Lufthansa, followed by 23 years in freight forwarding (in roles ranging from Operator to Branch Manager in IAD and ATL), Peter has cultivated a broad, practical knowledge base that now informs every training session he leads.



One of Peter's favorite courses to instruct?

IATA 7.3 Initial

Why?

Because it's where foundational understanding begins.

It's the first time many students come face to face with the critical role they'll play in aviation safety-- a concept Peter never takes lightly.

When asked about his teaching philosophy, Peter puts it plainly:

"Providing real-world examples and situations helps students understand that safety is the most important-- and that they are responsible for people's lives," he explains.

This grounding in practical application and personal accountability is what makes his classes resonate. He believes competency-based training isn't just about passing an exam-- it's about preparing professionals to make high stakes decisions in real time.



Most Satisfying Part of Instructing?

For Peter, the reward comes when a student doesn't just pass – but truly understands.

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That they passed the class and had an understanding of what they learned/studied – that's the most satisfying part.

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Outside the classroom, Peter is an active volunteer with Scouting America, serving as Assistant District Commissioner and Alumni Chair for the Northeast George Council. As an Eagle Scout, this commitment to mentoring the next generation is deeply personal. **“This is my part of giving back,”** he says with pride.

You'll also find him working on home projects, spending time with family, or enjoying weekend getaways in his 1971 VW Bus Riviera Camper-- one of three classic vehicles in his collection, alongside a 1971 VW Fastback and a 1986 Porsche 944.

“Each one has different fun parts,” he says, “but the camper is the weekend escape vehicle with a very cool style.”



What Sets ATP Training Apart?

For Peter, it's all about support — before, during, and long after the class ends.

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What sets ATP apart is the willingness to support students after class, no matter how long ago they took it — and not first asking for payment to assist.

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This student-first mindset is a pillar of ATP's training culture, and one he proudly upholds.



Words of Wisdom for the Next Generation

"Learn from those who have come before you, listen and observe the industry as a whole, never be afraid to question a shipment or action. If not sure, hold the shipment until you are comfortable that it is safe to transport onboard a commercial aircraft."

<https://training.alltranspack.com/learn>

