

Philip Keil

Philip Keil is a former commercial airline pilot and internationally recognised keynote speaker who brings aviation leadership into the business world. Drawing on real cockpit experience, he helps organisations strengthen decision-making, teamwork and confidence in times of change.

KEY TOPICS

- Teamwork, Communication and Empowerment: What High-Performing Crews Do Differently
- Leadership and Trust: Building a Culture that Learns from Mistakes
- Motivation, Change Management and Resilience in High-Pressure Environments
- Dealing with Change and Uncertainty
- The Inner Compass: Intuition in Critical Decisions

BIOGRAPHY

Introduction

Philip Keil is a former airline pilot, keynote speaker and author specialising in leadership, decision-making and teamwork under pressure. With over 9,000 flight hours and real-world crisis experience, he translates aviation principles into practical strategies for business and leadership audiences.

Professional Background & Credentials

At just 22, Philip Keil became one of Germany's youngest commercial airline pilots, flying extensively across the USA, Canada and Great Britain. His aviation career spans more than 9,000 flight hours on four continents and in almost every climate zone. A defining moment came during a routine flight in Africa, when an acute in-flight emergency involving nearly 200 passengers required decisive leadership and calm under pressure. Philip Keil successfully brought the situation under control and landed the aircraft safely, returning to the cockpit only days later. Since 2014, Philip Keil has built an international reputation as a keynote speaker across Europe and Asia. Presenting in both German and English, he has inspired tens of thousands of delegates at major leadership, business and knowledge events. His work has received sustained international recognition, including being listed among Europe's TOP 100 Excellent Keynote Speakers (since 2017), recognition as a Management Mastermind in Germany (since 2018), and nominations for Germany's "Keynote Speaker of the Year" at the Red Fox Awards in 2019 and 2020. In addition to his speaking career, Philip Keil is a respected media expert. Drawing on decades of aviation experience, he regularly contributes to leading business publications and appears as an aviation analyst on major television and news channels, offering expert commentary on current events and safety-related topics.

Books and Publications

Philip Keil is the author of several successful non-fiction works that translate aviation expertise into practical leadership and decision-making insights. His first audiobook, Mastering Crises (2016), introduces proven pilot strategies for managing pressure and unexpected situations. His book You Are the Pilot! was published in 2019 and focuses on trust, responsibility and achieving ambitious goals. His third audiobook, Inner Compass (2022),

explores the power of intuition when making complex and high-stakes decisions.

Speaking Style & Audience Value

Philip Keil is known for powerful storytelling combined with clear, practical and immediately applicable insights. His keynotes place audiences directly in the cockpit, offering a rare perspective on leadership, teamwork and decision-making in environments where hesitation is not an option and responsibility is absolute. He delivers keynote presentations, moderated discussions and interactive Q&A sessions, tailoring each engagement closely to the client's objectives and organisational context. Audiences consistently leave with increased confidence in decision-making, a deeper understanding of effective teamwork and communication, practical approaches to building a positive error culture, and renewed clarity and resilience when navigating change. Contact us now for more information on how Philip can support your organisation with powerful insights on leadership, teamwork and decision-making under pressure.

WHAT PEOPLE SAY

> "
> *Our executives have rated your talk as top class. Only the popcorn was missing.*
> "
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> **— Rene Behr, HR Director, IWC**

> "*You had 100% attention in the hall from the very first second. Your keynote speech was still being talked about in our offices weeks later. Thanks a lot for this!*"
>
> **— Martin Staudigl, HR Director, Richemont**

> "*Thank you very much for your speech - extremely exciting! I have actually integrated your strategies into my workplace.*"
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> **— Achim von Michel, BVMW**