**Pete Mento** is a senior executive and veteran of the global forwarding industry who specializes in the elimination, recovery and minimization of duties and taxes associated with importing and exporting. He also assists companies with import and export trade compliance, audit defense and cargo security programs. He is considered one of the most insightful and connected trade professionals in the world and his projects have recovered over $1 Billion in duties, taxes and fees over his 20 year career.

Pete has served as Partner and Practice Leader for the Customs Practices of Tax Firms like Ryan, KPMG and Crowe. In these roles he has established important connections between tax, finance and trade for his clients.

He has also run the global Customs operations and consultancies for major Freight Forwarding Firms like Expeditors, C.H. Robinson and Crane Worldwide. He now consults private firms and transportation companies in the development, marketing and innovation of Customs, Regulatory and Global Trade Products, Secured Transportation Offerings, Trade Consultancy, Integrated Managed Services and Software Solutions.

Pete is a Customs House Broker who also received his ALM in Government (Trade Theory Focus) from Harvard University and did his undergraduate work at Maine Maritime Academy where he served five consecutive terms as a member of the advisory board.

A Trade Academic who has written many articles and work papers on Trade Theory and Trade Practices especially the role programs like C-TPAT and AEO had on the global economy.

Pete is a highly sought-after speaker for events all over the world. A former professional standup comedian, he has conducted sold out lectures to tens of thousands of people in every imaginable venue – from University lecture halls to night clubs. His style of mixing economics, history and humor is always a welcome change for his clients and students. His Trade School webinar series has become the standard for staying up to date on issues of global commerce and his podcast "Trade Geek" boasts over 10,000 subscribers.

He is the most unlikely trade nerd you will ever meet.......