

Ahmed Metwally

Connectmetv



“ I saw an opportunity to generate tech innovation in Egypt. ”

COUNTRY

Egypt

INDUSTRY

Technology

WEBSITE

www.timelineinteractive.com

COMPANY SNAPSHOT

Ahmed currently serves as Chairman of ConnectmeTV, which he founded in 2006. In a nation where the tech savvy are a minority, ConnectmeTV has found a way to bring internet access and digital resources to the masses through a remote-controlled device that is connected to the user's TV. This media hub, dubbed the "Lyngbox", acts as a multi-functional entertainment gateway, combining the functionalities of satellite receiver, the media center capabilities of a PC and the interactivity of the internet in one easy-to-use device.

With a distribution network in Cairo, Alexandria, Ismailia and Upper Egypt, ConnectmeTV has captured 60% of the high-end receiver market to date.

Ahmed has over 15 years of experience in the technological and business world. Educated at the American University in Cairo and the University of Quebec in Ontario, he worked in system development and sales for a variety of companies, including Microsoft and Sony. In 2008, Ahmed began to develop the company's first product, the Lyngbox – an Egyptian version of Tivo. Via satellite programming, users can search for shows, and pause, rewind or record programs. But the potential of the Lyngbox is not limited to TV programs.

In Egypt, 16 million out of 19 million households possess a TV equipped with a satellite dish. With Egyptian users of all ages and types in mind, ConnectmeTV starts with the premise that it delivers modern entertainment and choices even to those with little computer experience or literacy. Thus, ConnectmeTV is operated purely by remote control. It allows users to play media files, browse photos, make reservations at restaurants or order food, play games, and more. These features have changed the meaning of home entertainment in Egypt. **In 2010, Ahmed was selected as one of Ottawa Business Journal's "Forty Under 40"**, a list honoring successful and dynamic business leaders under the age of forty.

Formerly, Ahmed served as the CEO of Timeline, for which he was selected as an Endeavor Entrepreneur. Founded in 2005 by Mostafa Hafez, Timeline develops video games that can be purchased and downloaded online instead of from a physical store. Ahmed met Mostafa in 2007, who quickly appointed him Chairman and CEO of Timeline to help secure financing, and structure and scale the business in Egypt. In 2009, Timeline released *CellFactor: Psychokinetic Wars*, the first downloadable video game to use sophisticated 3D visuals and game play physics. The only video game studio in the Middle East certified by Microsoft and Sony to develop games for the Xbox360 and PS3, Timeline is not only gaining globally recognized partners and clients, but it is also creating a gaming ecosystem in Egypt by training engineers and cultivating demand for high-end games.
