



Press Release

Giza Systems Education Foundation, Dell EMC, and Fab Lab Egypt Launch Fab Lab on Wheels

Cairo, Egypt – 4 December 2016

Giza Systems Education Foundation, in partnership with Dell EMC and in coordination with Fab Lab Egypt, announced the official launch of the Fab Lab on Wheels initiative. The launch event took place at the Greek Campus, Downtown Cairo, on the 4th of December 2016.

The Fab Lab on Wheels initiative is the first of its kind in Egypt. It consists of a mobile Fab Lab housed in a bus, promoting the message of “Tour. Educate. Create.” The uniqueness of this project is its focus on bringing digital fabrication and entrepreneurship to the various communities in rural areas in Egypt.

The launch event showcased the Fab Lab on Wheels bus equipped with state-of-the-art digital fabrication machinery including laser cutters, 3D printers and computer numerical control (CNC) routers. It also hosted various exhibitions and activities that highlighted some of the main creations of the youth at Fab Lab New Cairo and Fab Lab Egypt.

The guest list was rich with members of the private sector community, seed-funding sponsors, NGOs and NPOs, in addition to a colorful spectrum of youth, bringing together a pool of resources that created the optimal ecosystem for innovation.

Fab Lab on Wheels will be touring various governorates to provide local communities with accessibility to fabrication equipment and workshops, enabling community members in Egyptian governorates to materialize their ideas and concepts. By utilizing open source design software and a variety of computer controlled machines, as well as practical workshops, the community will be able to design and fabricate anything they can conceive.

“We are thrilled about bringing this ecosystem of innovation and cooperation to Egyptian governorates. There is so much untapped potential in youth all over Egypt, promising to uncover groundbreaking projects and helping to build a generation of entrepreneurs. They are the real catalysts for innovation and sustainability,” stated Shehab Elnawawi, Chairman and CEO of Giza Systems and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Giza Systems Education Foundation. He continued, “Our target is long-term. The plan is to create local makerspaces - mini fab labs - in each governorate after the Fab Lab on Wheels moves on to its next city. This way, we hope that each governorate becomes self-sufficient, and develops as a maker hub for the community and the surrounding areas.”

The bus will visit Minya, Sohag, Beni Suef, Al Faiyum, and Menoufeya governorates; staying for a period of 2 months in each governorate. During that time, the Fab Lab on Wheels team will support the local community through a myriad of methods including practical workshops, awareness sessions, community events, and a maker diploma offered by Fab Lab Egypt.



Hosted at the Exploratory Centers for Science and Technology in the various governorates, Fab Lab on Wheels will reach out to people from all walks of life to provide them with a hands-on learning environment. From engineering students and robotics enthusiasts, to handicraft makers and workshop owners, visitors will be able to access the technology and fabrication machines to innovate and create.

“By combining the capabilities of Dell and EMC, our vision is to leverage new technologies to drive human progress. Our collaboration with Giza Systems Education Foundation and Fab Lab Egypt represents one of many tools to increase awareness about new technologies and the possibilities that it can offer. Working with students and local talents, who represent the next generation, helps us identify challenges and deliver solutions based on new technologies and innovative business models to achieve our vision of building a better world,” said Mohammed Amin, Senior Vice President and Regional Manager for Turkey, Eastern Europe, Middle East and Africa Region at Dell EMC.

In addition to creating a strong maker community across Egypt, Fab Lab on Wheels works with young makers to develop their skill-set at an early age; reach out to existing and new school systems in Upper Egypt; and enable big data and cloud computing technology diffusion.

“We’re very excited about this project and reaching out to the different communities by offering them the Maker Diploma. Fab Lab on Wheels hopes to grow the maker community and inspire entrepreneurs throughout Egypt to turn their ideas into new products and prototypes. The initiative widens the pool of talents and resources, and promotes networking and information sharing across governorates,” commented Omar El Safty, General Manager at Fab Lab Egypt.

By diffusing the know-how and spreading the access to technology across Upper Egypt, makers, inventors and entrepreneurs can come together for the emergence of a strong Egyptian Maker Community. A community of innovation that is empowered to create, address its own local needs, and foster a culture of entrepreneurship.



About Giza Systems

Giza Systems, a leading systems integrator in the MEA region, designs and deploys industry-specific technology solutions for asset-intensive industries such as the Telecoms, Utilities, Oil & Gas, Transportation and other market sectors. We help our clients streamline their operations and businesses through our portfolio of solutions, managed services, and consultancy practice. Our teams of 800 professionals are spread throughout the region with anchor offices in Cairo, Riyadh, Dubai, Nairobi, Dar-es-Salaam and Abuja, allowing us to service an ever-increasing client base in over 40 countries.

For more information: <http://www.gizasystems.com>

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About Giza Systems Education Foundation

Giza Systems Education Foundation is a civil educational non-profit foundation seeking to combat ignorance and poverty in the most marginalized areas in Egypt through the use of technology and technical expertise. The Foundation strives for the integration and exchange of experiences with civil society organizations and NGOs, in addition to creating successful partnerships with the private sector and various state institutions in order to provide solutions that lead to real, on-ground development, while innovatively addressing the economic and social challenges faced by the Egyptian society.

For those interested in learning more about how to help or contribute in our future projects, please communicate with us via e-mail: gizasystems.foundation@gizasystems.com

Or visit our official page on Facebook: [facebook.com/GizaSystemsFoundation](https://www.facebook.com/GizaSystemsFoundation)

About Dell EMC

Dell EMC is a part of Dell Technologies, it enables businesses and service providers to update, automate and transform their data centers using leading technologies of integrated infrastructures, servers, methods of storage and data protection. These techs provide a reliable cornerstone for companies to transform their IT by founding hybrid cloud computing, and growing their works through approving cloud Computing apps and gross data solutions. Dell EMC provides services to clients in 180 countries around the globe, including 98% of Fortune 500 list. The company provides a comprehensive and innovative services portfolio to meet all various aspects in IT.

About Fab Lab Egypt

Fab Lab Egypt is a community-run makerspace founded in 2012 by young Egyptians. The lab is a member of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Fab Lab global network since 2012. It is a digital fabrication lab and a makerspace where anyone can make almost anything, from electronics to furniture and installations. Young children, college students, entrepreneurs and businesses materialize and prototype their ideas in the lab. They can also get together to share knowledge, and collaborate on projects and hands-on activities. We share our machines, tools, skills, resources and ideas with the community to create new opportunities for economic and social benefit with the goal of establishing at least one fab lab in each governorate to build a community of two million makers in Egypt and to have world-class "Designed in Egypt" products.



About Scientific Exploratory Centers

The Scientific Exploratory Centers – under the supervision of the Ministry of Education – are considered the pioneer of experimental science museums in Egypt, aiming to support the gifted in science and the development of scientific talent, offering real scientific value to support the development of Egypt scientifically and technologically. They also aim to support creative thinking and develop the spirit of innovation among students, with trainings to incorporate technology in all aspects of life.

The Scientific Exploratory Centers' target is to create a learning environment through the "explore and learn" approach. It is a service available to people of all ages, from students who aim to simplify their curricula, to non-students who wish to learn in general.