

## AS SEEN IN

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**THE COMEBACK:** I plan on taking my kids to Lebanon to see my in-laws.



# ABDUL AKEL

CEO and co-founder | T-Cetra LLC

**Hometown:** Damascus, Syria

**Age:** 39

**NOMINATOR'S COMMENTS:** Akel built T-Cetra on the values of innovation, compassion, diversity and teamwork. But it's his genuine concern for others as well as his innate ability to do the right thing which sets him apart from the crowd.

- **HEIDI AMES**, COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER, T-CETRA

**Q&A** Tell us about someone who helped you early in your career. I have had many great mentors that imparted great wisdom on me: my dad Hisham Akel, Michael Baraz (IT consultant), James Zitesman (lawyer), and my banker for 14 years, Doug Andrews, to name just a few.

**What is an activity or event you're looking forward to once it's safe?** Trade shows where I meet my customers and partners.

**Once things open back up, would you rather work from home or the office?** I prefer the office with some flexibility to work from home.

**Who is the first person you hugged/plan to hug once it's safe?** My parents.