In 2011, French startup Teads designed a new type of video ad that appears natively inside editorial articles without requiring existing video content. “We invented outstream video formats, which turn premium editorial content into new video ad inventory that can be monetized at scale,” explains Eric Shih, global senior vice president of business development. Four years later, as a global company reaching 1.2 billion unique users across hundreds of leading websites, Teads signed on as one of the first advertising partners to join the AMP Project when it launched as an open source initiative to build a better, faster mobile web for everybody.

Achieving a better user experience, together

The Teads team worked closely with the AMP Project’s leads, sharing their unique expertise in outstream video. They also adjusted their ad format, which was originally designed to expand into view as the user scrolled down the page and collapse away after the video ended. Because this functionality caused paragraphs to shift on the screen, it diverged from the AMP Project’s design principles. The AMP’d version of the ad would always be open, keeping the page layout consistent and creating a more seamless user experience. Results have been so positive that Teads rolled out the change to non-AMP’d pages as well. “We have since modified the behavior of our formats outside of the AMP HTML environment – on desktop, mobile web, and in-app – to be consistent with AMP HTML,” Mr. Shih says.

Clearing clutter, encouraging engagement

In the months since Teads built support for its native video ads to be served on AMP’d pages, nearly 100 of its premium publishers have also joined the AMP Project, including Trinity Mirror, The Telegraph, L’Express, Ouest-France, Público, Rodale, Mashable and The McClatchy Company. “AMP HTML delivers our most optimal mobile browsing experience,” says Amir Malik, programmatic director for Trinity Mirror. “Being able to marry this with native video advertising allows us to not only make revenue from the fastest-growing area of digital but to do so whilst respecting our users.”

Across Teads’ publisher portfolio, 70% of which is mobile, video ads perform significantly better on AMP’d pages than on the traditional mobile web, Mr. Shih notes. “The completion rate is 15% higher, and clickthrough rates have increased by 200%,” he explains. “When there are fewer, less intrusive ads and a cleaner environment, it lends itself to more engagement.” Shih also points out that Teads’ video ads appear 18% more frequently on AMP’d pages than on non-optimized mobile pages, creating even more inventory for publishers. He attributes the uptick to faster load times and minimal ad clutter.

Learn more about the Accelerated Mobile Pages Project and building your first AMP HTML file at: www.ampproject.org