



NEWS RELEASE

At Semafor World Economy Lumen CEO Kate Johnson Issues Open Letter to CEOs: “Is Your Network AI-Ready?”—Calling for AI-Ready Network Modernization

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Johnson will participate in a fireside chat on “AI’s Next Chapter” at the annual global forum in Washington, DC

DENVER--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Timed to coincide with Semafor World Economy 2026, taking place April 13-17 in Washington, DC, Lumen Technologies’ (“Lumen”) (NYSE: LUMN) CEO Kate Johnson issued an open letter to CEOs asking, “Is your network AI-ready?” The letter points to the urgent need to upgrade networking infrastructure to support AI aspirations. Johnson will expand on the topic during a fireside chat that is part of a session on “AI’s Next Chapter,” which begins at 9 a.m. ET on Tuesday, April 14.

Lumen CEO Kate Johnson Issues Open Letter to CEOs Calling for AI-Ready Network Modernization

“The network is the nervous system in an AI-driven enterprise. It determines how fast you can move, how much you spend, and whether

your AI investments produce value,” said Johnson. “To support your business, networks must be resilient, adaptable, programmable, and consumption-based — just like cloud.”

Johnson emphasizes that:

- **AI is fundamentally reshaping network demand, and yesterday’s networks can’t keep up:** Data is moving continuously across clouds, data centers, and the edge, with autonomous systems already driving a significant share of traffic.
- **Network performance is inextricably linked to value creation and customer experience:** Constrained networks slow time to insight and time to first token, limit the customer experience, and constrain high-value compute investment returns.



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