



NEWS RELEASE

## CenturyLink Awarded 2012 Partner of the Year by Ciena

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MONROE, La., April 10, 2013 /PRNewswire/ -- **CenturyLink, Inc.** (NYSE: CTL) was recently named the 2012 Partner of the Year by Ciena.

(Logo: <http://photos.prnewswire.com/prnh/20090602/DA26511LOGO>)

CenturyLink was honored for its deployment of new managed services in 2012, including its **Professional Network Operations Center (ProNOC)** offering. ProNOC is a comprehensive network management, technology and maintenance solution that allows enterprise customers to focus on their core business priorities and avoid costly IT resource investments.

"CenturyLink is honored to be named Ciena's Partner of the Year in 2012 and the North American Solution Provider Partner of the Year for the previous four years," said Kenny Wyatt, CenturyLink senior vice president of business solutions. "This honor validates our commitment to finding solutions that can help businesses grow and be more productive. Together with Ciena, we are delivering the right combination of services that can help our customers achieve success."

"CenturyLink has been a great partner," said Nigel Williams, vice president of worldwide channels and strategic alliances, Ciena. "They leveraged Ciena's BizConnect partner program to help identify and address each customer's networking and technology needs."

### **About CenturyLink**

CenturyLink is the third largest telecommunications company in the United States and is recognized as a leader in the network services market by technology industry analyst firms. The company is a global leader in cloud infrastructure and hosted IT solutions for enterprise customers. CenturyLink provides data, voice and managed

services in local, national and select international markets through its high-quality advanced fiber optic network and multiple data centers for businesses and consumers. The company also offers advanced entertainment services under the CenturyLink™ Prism™ TV and DIRECTV brands. Headquartered in Monroe, La., CenturyLink is an S&P 500 company and is included among the Fortune 500 list of America's largest corporations. For more information, visit [www.centurylink.com](http://www.centurylink.com).

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