



NEWS RELEASE

CenturyLink Wins Freedom Award From Defense Department

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MONROE, La., Sept. 30, 2011 /PRNewswire/ -- CenturyLink, Inc. (NYSE: CTL) has received the 2011 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award, the highest recognition given by the Department of Defense to public sector employers for their exceptional support of employees serving in the Guard and Reserve.

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

CenturyLink CEO and President Glen F. Post, III accepted the Freedom Award, presented to the company at a ceremony in Washington, D.C.

"CenturyLink is committed to providing a supportive atmosphere to our employees who serve our country in the armed forces and to their families," Post said. "We are honored to be recognized by the Defense Department with this award."

The Freedom Award recognizes the support given to Guard and Reserve employees by Qwest Communications, which was acquired by CenturyLink in April 2011. Qwest had previously won the Freedom Award at the state level for three consecutive years. CenturyLink is among 15 organizations receiving the national award this year from a field of more than 4,000 nominations submitted by service members or their families.

In another recognition of its commitment to employees who also served in the military, CenturyLink has been named to the list of "45 Great Employers for Vets" by Military Times EDGE. The magazine determined the list based on survey responses from Fortune 1000 companies and top government contractors that rated the employers on their vet-friendliness in three areas: recruiting, corporate culture and reserve policies.

According to Military Times EDGE, "We looked for companies that could prove they make veterans a priority — not just with slogans and statements of support, but with programs, policies and positive track records." For the survey's results and more information: www.militarytimesedge.com/links/2011-employer-surveys

About CenturyLink

CenturyLink is the third largest telecommunications company in the United States. The company provides broadband, voice and wireless services to consumers and businesses across the country and advanced entertainment services under the CenturyLink™ Prism™ TV and DIRECTV brands. In addition, the company provides data, voice and managed services to business, government and wholesale customers in local, national and select international markets through its high-quality advanced fiber optic network and multiple data centers. CenturyLink also is recognized as a leader in the network services market by key technology industry analyst firms, and is a global leader in cloud infrastructure and hosted IT solutions for enterprises through Savvis, a CenturyLink company. CenturyLink's customers range from Fortune 500 companies in some of the country's largest cities to families living in rural America. 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.

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