



NEWS RELEASE

CenturyLink named a leader in research report on DDoS services providers

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Report mentions CenturyLink's DDoS attack response capabilities

MONROE, La., July 30, 2015 /PRNewswire/ -- **CenturyLink, Inc.** (NYSE: CTL) today announced it has been named a leader in **The Forrester Wave™: DDoS Services Providers, Q3 2015**¹. Published by Forrester Research, a leading industry analyst firm, the report evaluates nine distributed denial of service (DDoS) services providers that met the selection criteria for breadth, global presence and market relevance.

In the report, Forrester states that CenturyLink scored especially well for its attack response capabilities, as well as its capabilities to defend against very large amplification attacks. CenturyLink also received the highest score possible for geographies currently served and hybrid implementation.

According to Forrester's report: "To be a leader in a Forrester Wave, a vendor must have a strong current offering and a strong strategy that will clearly address current and future market needs. These vendors demonstrate effective portals, good client and revenue growth, and a focus on customer service."

CenturyLink's **DDoS Mitigation Service** minimizes the impact of distributed denial of service attacks by providing protection both at the network level and through a mitigation appliance – before it impacts an organization's infrastructure. CenturyLink's hybrid implementations enable companies to mitigate DDoS attacks across their own networks as well as inside any CenturyLink data center. Possible attack traffic is re-routed to one or more "cleansing centers," allowing valid traffic to pass through without delay.

"Nearly every business today has a need for DDoS protection. DDoS attacks continue to increase in sophistication and can quickly overrun a website, disrupting business and exposing an organization to significant risks," said Tim Kelleher, vice president, IT security services, at CenturyLink. "CenturyLink helps businesses protect against DDoS

attacks by providing always-on mitigation that protects environments whether they are accessed via CenturyLink's network, one of CenturyLink's data centers around the world, on customer premises or via a third-party data center or network."

Forrester authors Rick Holland and Ed Ferrara wrote the The Forrester Wave™: DDoS Services Providers report, which was published on July 23, 2015. CenturyLink has also been recognized recently in the **Magic Quadrant for Cloud-Enabled Managed Hosting, Europe**, and **Magic Quadrant for Cloud Infrastructure as a Service, Worldwide**, reports published by Gartner, another leading analyst firm.

The Forrester Wave report can be downloaded at <http://info.centurylinkforbusiness.com/ForresterWaveDDoSLeader.html>.

About CenturyLink

CenturyLink (NYSE: CTL) is a global communications, hosting, cloud and IT services company enabling millions of customers to transform their businesses and their lives through innovative technology solutions. CenturyLink offers network and data systems management, Big Data analytics and IT consulting, and operates more than 55 data centers in North America, Europe and Asia. The company provides broadband, voice, video, data and managed services over a robust 250,000-route-mile U.S. fiber network and a 300,000-route-mile international transport network. Visit **CenturyLink** for more information.

1 Forrester Research; The Forrester Wave™ DDoS Services Providers, Q3 2015; Ed Ferrara and Rick Holland; July 22, 2015

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