



NEWS RELEASE

CenturyLink wins 2012 MEF Carrier Ethernet Award

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MONROE, La., Dec. 6, 2012 /PRNewswire/ -- **CenturyLink, Inc.** (NYSE: CTL), a recognized leader in the network services market by technology industry analyst firms, received the 2012 "Best Carrier Ethernet Business Application" award by the Metro Ethernet Forum (MEF). CenturyLink was awarded for developing an **Ethernet** solution for Monroe City Schools in Monroe, La. that provides the school system with a consolidated and highly resilient Ethernet-based infrastructure for managing voice, video and data traffic on their network.

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

"CenturyLink has a long history of supporting educational institutions with the services they need to deliver a richer educational experience," said Matt Beal, CenturyLink senior vice president - corporate strategy, product development and chief technology officer. "Our Ethernet solutions provide the bandwidth-intensive applications each school system needs while allowing them to easily tailor the connection requirements for each building. This reduces network complexity and operating costs."

In May of this year, CenturyLink also received the 2012 "Customer Value Enhancement Award in Retail Mid-Band Ethernet (MBE) Services" from Frost & Sullivan for its successful deployment of fiber and copper-based MBE services to small and large businesses and for the growth of its market coverage and product portfolio.

MEF Carrier Ethernet Awards recognize excellence and leadership in the delivery of Carrier Ethernet Services and are presented annually in North America, Asia-Pacific, EMEA and the Caribbean and Latin American regions. The awards are judged by a panel of senior industry analysts.

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.

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