



NEWS RELEASE

CenturyTel Declares Quarterly Cash Dividend

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MONROE, La., Aug. 25 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- CenturyTel, Inc. (NYSE: CTL) today announced that its Board of Directors voted to declare a quarterly cash dividend of \$.70 per share, payable on September 22, 2008, to shareholders of record on September 9, 2008. This dividend reflects the Company's new regular quarterly dividend rate in accordance with its revised cash return strategy announced June 24th.

CenturyTel (NYSE: CTL) is a leading provider of communications, high-speed Internet and entertainment services in small-to-mid-size cities through our broadband and fiber transport networks. Included in the S&P 500 Index, CenturyTel delivers advanced communications with a personal touch to customers in 25 states. Visit us at <http://www.centurytel.com>.

SOURCE CenturyTel, Inc.

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