



NEWS RELEASE

CenturyTel Declares Quarterly Cash Dividend

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MONROE, La., Feb. 26 /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 March 31, 2009, to shareholders of record on March 17, 2009.

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 www.centurytel.com.

SOURCE CenturyTel, Inc.

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