



NEWS RELEASE

# CenturyTel Schedules First Quarter 2004 Conference Call

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MONROE, La.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--April 15, 2004--CenturyTel, Inc. (NYSE:CTL) plans to release its first quarter 2004 earnings results pre-market opening Thursday, April 29, 2004, and host a related conference call at 10:30 a.m. CDT that day.

Due to CenturyTel's increased focus on integrated bundle offerings to bring a "one-company" view to its customers and the discount structures associated with such offerings, the Company will present its operations in a single segment format beginning first quarter 2004. The Company will continue to report separate revenue components that align with its major products and services, but will report operating cash flow and operating income margins on a consolidated basis only. Prior period results will be restated to conform to the single segment format.

The conference call will be streamed live over CenturyTel's Web site at [www.centurytel.com](http://www.centurytel.com). Interested parties can also access the call by dialing 800.346.2923 and entering the conference ID number 3383 five minutes prior to the start of the call. A digital recording of the call will be available beginning at 1:00 p.m. CDT April 29, 2004, and ending May 6, 2004, at 1:00 p.m. CDT. The replay can be accessed by calling 800.332.6854 and entering the conference ID number 3383. A replay of the call will also be available on the Web site after 1:00 p.m. CDT April 29, 2004.

CenturyTel, Inc. provides communications services including local, long distance, Internet access and data services to more than 3 million customers in 22 states. The company, headquartered in Monroe, Louisiana, is publicly traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol CTL, and is included in the S&P 500 Index. CenturyTel is the 8th largest local exchange telephone company, based on access lines, in the United States. Visit CenturyTel at [www.centurytel.com](http://www.centurytel.com).

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SOURCE: CenturyTel, Inc.