



NEWS RELEASE

CenturyTel Schedules First Quarter 2005 Earnings Conference Call

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MONROE, La.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--April 7, 2005--CenturyTel, Inc. (NYSE:CTL) plans to release its first quarter 2005 earnings results pre-market opening on Thursday, April 28, 2005, and host a related conference call at 10:30 a.m. CDT that day.

The conference call will be streamed live over CenturyTel's Web site at www.centurytel.com. Interested parties can also access the call by dialing 866.802.4324 five minutes prior to the start of the call. A digital recording of the call will be available beginning at 2:00 p.m. CDT on April 28, 2005, and ending May 4, 2005, at 11:59 p.m. CDT. The replay can be accessed by calling 888.266.2081 and entering the access code: 680045. A replay of the call will also be available on the Web site after 2:00 p.m. CDT on April 28, 2005 and ending May 18, 2005, at 5:00 p.m. CDT.

CenturyTel, Inc. (NYSE: CTL) provides a full range of local, long-distance, Internet and broadband services to consumers in 22 states. Included in the S&P 500 Index, CenturyTel is a leading provider of integrated communications services to rural areas and small to mid-size cities in the United States. Visit CenturyTel at www.centurytel.com.

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SOURCE: CenturyTel, Inc.