



NEWS RELEASE

CenturyTel Schedules First Quarter 2006 Earnings Conference Call

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MONROE, La.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--April 6, 2006--CenturyTel, Inc. (NYSE: CTL) plans to release its first quarter 2006 earnings results pre-market opening on Thursday, April 27, 2006, 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 866.206.6154 five minutes prior to the start of the call. A digital recording of the call will be available beginning at 2:30 p.m. CDT on April 27, 2006 and ending May 3, 2006, at 11:59 p.m. CDT. The replay can be accessed by calling 888.266.2081 and entering the access code: 886448. A replay of the call will also be available on the Web site beginning at 2:00 p.m. CDT on April 27, 2006 and ending May 17, 2006, at 5:00 p.m. CDT.

CenturyTel (NYSE: CTL) is a leading provider of consumer and business communications solutions in rural areas and small to mid-size cities in 26 states and is included in the S&P 500 Index. The company delivers advanced communications with a personal touch. Visit CenturyTel at www.centurytel.com.

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SOURCE: CenturyTel, Inc.