



NEWS RELEASE

CenturyTel Schedules Fourth Quarter 2005 Earnings Conference Call

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MONROE, La.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Jan. 13, 2006--CenturyTel, Inc. (NYSE: CTL) plans to release its fourth quarter 2005 earnings results pre-market opening on Thursday, February 2, 2006, and host a related conference call at 10:30 a.m. CST 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 866.261.7147 five minutes prior to the start of the call. A digital recording of the call will be available beginning at 2:30 p.m. CST on February 2, 2006 and ending February 8, 2006, at 11:59 p.m. CST. The replay can be accessed by calling 888.266.2081 and entering the access code: 836323. A replay of the call will also be available on the Web site beginning at 2:00 p.m. CST on February 2, 2006 and ending February 22, 2006, at 5:00 p.m. CST.

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

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