



NEWS RELEASE

CenturyTel Schedules Second Quarter 2005 Earnings Conference Call

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MONROE, La.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--July 7, 2005--CenturyTel, Inc. (NYSE: CTL) plans to release its second quarter 2005 earnings results pre-market opening on Thursday, July 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 888.423.4863 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 July 28, 2005, and ending August 3, 2005, at 11:59 p.m. CDT. The replay can be accessed by calling 888.266.2081 and entering the access code: 736032. A replay of the call will also be available on the Web site after 2:00 p.m. CDT on July 28, 2005 and ending August 17, 2005, at 5:00 p.m. CDT.

Included in the S&P 500 Index, CenturyTel (NYSE: CTL) is a leading provider of a full array of communications services primarily to rural areas and small to mid-size cities in 26 states. Visit CenturyTel at www.centurytel.com.

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