



NEWS RELEASE

CenturyTel declares quarterly cash dividend

2006-05-23

MONROE, La.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--May 23, 2006--CenturyTel, Inc. (NYSE: CTL) today announced that its Board of Directors voted to declare a quarterly cash dividend of \$.0625 per share, payable on June 16, 2006, to shareholders of record on June 5, 2006.

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.