



NEWS RELEASE

CenturyTel to Participate in Analyst Conferences

2003-08-21

MONROE, La.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Aug. 21, 2003--CenturyTel, Inc. (NYSE: CTL) announces today that it is scheduled to participate in the following analyst conferences:

Morgan Stanley 8th Annual Global Media & Communications Conference	Monday September 8th
Goldman Sachs Communacopia XII Conference	Tuesday September 30th
UBS Warburg Global Communications Conference	Monday November 17th

Conference hosts may provide webcast availability in some cases. For information regarding specific presentation times and webcast availability, please visit CenturyTel's Web site at www.centurytel.com, Investor Relations, Calendar of Events. Participation in these conferences is subject to change due to unforeseen events. Therefore, please check the company's Investor Relations Calendar of Events prior to each conference.

CenturyTel, Inc. provides communications services including local, long distance, Internet access and data services to more than 3 million customers in 22 states. The company, headquartered in Monroe, Louisiana, is publicly traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol CTL, and is included in the S&P 500 Index. CenturyTel is the 8th largest local exchange telephone company, based on access lines, in the United States. Visit CenturyTel at www.centurytel.com.

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