



NEWS RELEASE

CenturyTel to Participate in Analyst Conferences

2003-11-21

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

Lehman Brothers
Fifth Annual T3 - Tuesday
Telecom, Trends and Technology Conference December 9th

Credit Suisse First Boston Thursday
2003 Media and Telecom Conference December 11th

Fourteenth Annual Smith Barney Citigroup Tuesday
Entertainment, Media & Telecommunications Conference January 6th

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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CONTACT: CenturyTel, Inc.
, Monroe

Media:

Patricia Cameron, 318-388-9674
patricia.cameron@centurytel.com

or

Investors:

Tony Davis, 318-388-9525
tony.davis@centurytel.com
<http://www.centurytel.com>

SOURCE: CenturyTel, Inc.