



NEWS RELEASE

CenturyTel to Participate in Analyst Conferences During May 2003

2003-04-24

MONROE, La--(BUSINESS WIRE)--April 24, 2003--CenturyTel, Inc. (NYSE:CTL) announces today that it is scheduled to participate in the following analyst conferences during May 2003:

JP Morgan 31st Annual Technology & Telecom Conference	Tuesday May 6th
Goldman Sachs Ninth Annual Telecom Retreat	Monday May 12th
Bank of America Media, Telecommunications, & Entertainment Conference	Wednesday May 21st

For information regarding specific presentation times and web cast 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's corporate Web site at www.centurytel.com.

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SOURCE: CenturyTel Inc.