



NEWS RELEASE

Lumen Technologies Named to Fast Company's 2026 List of the World's Most Innovative Companies

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Company honored for reimagining digital network infrastructure for the AI era

DENVER--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Lumen Technologies (NYSE: **LUMN**) is proud to have been named on Fast Company's prestigious list of the World's Most Innovative Companies of 2026, ranked among the top organizations in the Enterprise category for delivering technologies that make other businesses more efficient and effective. This marks the first time Lumen is included on this global list, which recognizes organizations shaping industries and culture through innovation.

"This recognition comes as Lumen enters the growth phase of its transformation and reflects our team's work to reinvent Lumen for the AI era," said Kate Johnson, CEO of Lumen Technologies. "We've transformed a legacy telecom into a digital networking infrastructure company built for the next generation of innovation—connecting data centers, clouds, enterprises, and AI systems that will power the global economy. Innovation for us isn't just about technology; it's about reimagining what a network can do in the AI economy."

As part of its **transformation into a digital network services company**, Lumen is rapidly expanding its high-capacity fiber network and developing a new generation of programmable network services. The company plans to reach 58 million intercity fiber miles by 2031, connecting the world's fastest-growing digital ecosystems—including AI data centers, hyperscalers, and global enterprises.

Central to the company's innovation is Lumen's Network-as-a-Service (NaaS) platform, which has **surpassed 2,000 customers** and enables the rapid provisioning of secure, high-performance connectivity in minutes rather than months. Through **Lumen Connect**, a self-service digital portal, customers gain real-time control over how they deploy, manage and scale network services. Together with a growing **connected ecosystem of technology partners**, Lumen is redefining how networks are designed, delivered, and consumed—building programmable

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Forward-Looking Statement

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. All statements contained in this press release that do not relate to matters of historical fact should be considered forward-looking statements, including statements regarding management's expectations with respect to our business, strategy and operations as well as statements identified by words such as "estimates," "expects," "anticipates," "believes," "plans," "intends," "will," and similar expressions. These forward-looking statements are not promises nor guarantees of future results, are based on our current expectations only and are subject to various risks and uncertainties, including those described in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K and Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, as updated in our other filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission from time to time. Actual results may differ materially from those anticipated by us in these statements due to several factors, including those referenced in our filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

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