

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF  
SECURITIESFiled pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the  
Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * <b>Huber Dennis G</b>	2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (MM/DD/YYYY) <b>9/7/2010</b>	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <b>CENTURYTEL INC [CTL]</b>
(Last) (First) (Middle) <b>100 CENTURYLINK DRIVE</b>	4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below) <b>Ex. VP /</b>	
(Street) <b>MONROE, LA 71203</b>  (City) (State) (Zip)	5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (MM/DD/YYYY)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

## Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
<b>Common Stock</b>	<b>46562.0000</b>	<b>D (1)</b>	

## Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned ( e.g. , puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivate Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (MM/DD/YYYY)		3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)		4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares			
<b>NQ Stock Option</b>	<b>3/2/2011</b>	<b>3/2/2018</b>	<b>Common Stock</b>	<b>10727.0000</b>	<b>\$30.6200</b>	<b>D</b>	
<b>NQ Stock Option</b>	<b>(2)</b>	<b>2/8/2015</b>	<b>Common Stock</b>	<b>13361.0000</b>	<b>\$36.2900</b>	<b>D</b>	
<b>NQ Stock Option</b>	<b>(2)</b>	<b>2/22/2017</b>	<b>Common Stock</b>	<b>20754.0000</b>	<b>\$41.1900</b>	<b>D</b>	
<b>NQ Stock Option</b>	<b>(2)</b>	<b>5/11/2011</b>	<b>Common Stock</b>	<b>24097.0000</b>	<b>\$66.7100</b>	<b>D</b>	
<b>Restricted Stock Units</b>	<b>(3)</b>	<b>(3)</b>	<b>Common Stock</b>	<b>18291.0000</b>	<b>\$0.0000 (3)</b>	<b>D</b>	

## Explanation of Responses:

- (1) Reporting Person previously served as an executive officer of the Company through 5/3/2010 and rejoined the Company on 9/7/2010.
- (2) Option is fully vested.
- (3) RSU will vest on 3/2/2011.

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other

Huber Dennis G 100 CENTURYLINK DRIVE MONROE, LA 71203			Ex. VP	
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Signatures

Kay C. Buchart, Attorney-In-Fact

9/9/2010

Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(b)(v).

\*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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