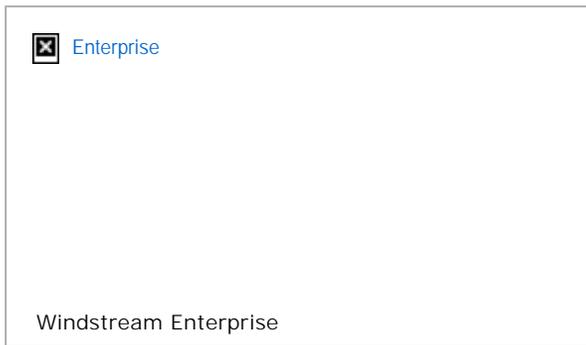




March 7, 2018

## Windstream Enterprise named a "Preferred Provider" by PlanetOne Communications

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., March 07, 2018 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Windstream (NASDAQ:WIN), a leading provider of advanced network communications, today announced [Windstream Enterprise](#) is now a Preferred Provider within PlanetOne Communications' portfolio. The addition of Windstream Enterprise further enhances PlanetOne's growing portfolio of cloud, collaboration, connectivity, data center, mobility, networking and voice providers. The expanded business relationship will also raise awareness of the Windstream Enterprise portfolio and partner program within the PlanetOne partner ecosystem, which includes many of the industry's top-performing agents and MSPs.



The enterprise marketplace is rapidly evolving and undergoing significant technology changes. As the preferred business provider for the IT channel and telecom industry, PlanetOne Communications connects the IT and telecom industry's leading providers to channel partners using technologies and managed services to solve business challenges and simplify success for their customers. Windstream Enterprise's move to Preferred Provider status comes on the heels of the organization's rebranding announcement and multi-year transformation strategy to deliver cloud-based and connectivity solutions to small and mid-size businesses and enterprises.

"I look forward to working with PlanetOne, who has established one of the most productive partner communities in the space. This is the new Windstream Enterprise, transformed on all fronts. We are thrilled to have this level of engagement with PlanetOne and look forward to re-engaging with their long-time partners, as well as increasing sales across our product portfolio and welcoming new channel partners into the Windstream Enterprise program," said Curt Allen, SVP Channel, Windstream Enterprise.

As one of the larger, successful master agents in the U.S., PlanetOne is a key influencer in the marketplace and teams with the industry's top providers.

"With digital transformation at the top of nearly every CIO's and IT Director's priority list, demand for game-changing, flexible and reliable technologies including network infrastructure, SD-WAN and UCaaS is growing rapidly," said Ted Schuman, founder and CEO, PlanetOne Communications. "Under Curt's leadership, Windstream is working fast to educate and empower its channel partners to address the connectivity services gap created by enterprise-focused carriers and smaller cable companies. It's a huge opportunity, and the channel is hands down the best direct sales force for Windstream to tap into. It's an exciting time to expand our relationship and welcome Windstream Enterprise to our Preferred Provider portfolio."

Windstream Enterprise offers a range of complementary network and communications solutions including [SD-WAN](#) our proprietary [OfficeSuite UCaaS](#) solution, [integrated network security](#), and access, transport and business continuity solutions including [Ethernet](#), [Wavelengths with Optical Encryption](#) and [Fixed Wireless](#). Windstream's Enterprise solutions are collectively designed to help businesses increase productivity, improve ROI and win. More at [windstreamenterprise.com](#).

### ABOUT WINDSTREAM

Windstream Holdings, Inc. (NASDAQ:WIN), a FORTUNE 500 company, is a leading provider of advanced network communications and technology solutions. Windstream provides data networking, core transport, security, unified communications and managed services to mid-market, enterprise and wholesale customers across the U.S. The company also offers broadband, entertainment and security services for consumers and small and medium-sized businesses primarily in rural areas in 18 states. Services are delivered over multiple network platforms including a nationwide IP network, our proprietary cloud core architecture and on a local and long-haul fiber network spanning approximately 150,000 miles. Additional information is available at [windstream.com](http://windstream.com) or [windstreamenterprise.com](http://windstreamenterprise.com). Please visit our newsroom at [news.windstream.com](http://news.windstream.com) or follow us on Twitter at [@Windstream](https://twitter.com/Windstream) or [@WindstreamBiz](https://twitter.com/WindstreamBiz).

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