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Windstream expands metro fiber network in Chicago

Expansion is part of Windstream's multi-city campaign to connect even more data centers and commercial buildings to company's national backbone

CHICAGO, Aug. 16, 2016 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- [Windstream](#) (NASDAQ:WIN), a leading provider of advanced network communications, today announced a major expansion of its advanced metro fiber network in [the Chicago area](#). Windstream's expansion will provide the area's growing business community with world-class fiber and fixed-wireless infrastructure that connects even more local data centers and commercial buildings to Windstream's high-speed, highly available nationwide fiber network.

"We are excited to expand our network here in Chicago. It creates new levels of connectivity and network reliability, allowing us to offer an expanded product suite and unique last mile diversity solutions with the combination of fiber and fixed wireless," said Chris Nein, regional president of enterprise sales for Windstream's west region. "Our expansion plans are a direct reflection of how important the Chicago business community is to our company. We have already started to connect local customers directly to our expanded fiber network, and are ready to continue to grow it rapidly."

Windstream's expansion of its advanced metro fiber network connects its national fiber network to major data center complexes and commercial buildings in Chicago, including Downtown, the Loop and Northwest suburbs such as Downers Grove, Elk Grove Village, Lisle and Naperville. Windstream's expansion also follows the company's recent announcement that it is one of the first carriers [to establish a presence in QTS Realty Trust's new downtown Chicago mega data center](#).

The fiber network expansion combined with Windstream's existing fixed-wireless infrastructure will allow Chicago-area businesses to connect directly to other major and mid-size markets across the country, and enables business customers to utilize the [enterprise-class data, voice, network and cloud services](#) that Windstream customers in other major markets use as the foundation of their technology strategy.

"As an online provider of financial services to literally millions of customers around the globe, having access to a fast, reliable and secure network is critical to our business model," said John Higginson, chief technology officer at [Enova International](#). "Windstream consistently delivers the business solutions we need, when and where we need them. From our original office location to our new office space at 175 West Jackson, I've been impressed with Windstream's ability to be different and to break through traditional telecom company roadblocks to deliver the solutions we demand. Windstream's expanded network is great news for all Chicago businesses."

The Windstream expansion increases both the footprint of the company's network and the services that are available to local customers - including unified communications, managed services, network security, business continuity, network solutions and cloud services, all of which are provided with the support of a dedicated local team.

Windstream is expanding local metro fiber networks across the country as part of an initiative that will support customers in the banking, financial services, legal services, education, healthcare, government, hospitality and retail industries, among others. Additional fiber expansions in markets such as Atlanta, Minneapolis, Cleveland and Philadelphia are planned throughout 2016.

For more information on Windstream and the company's Chicago network expansion, visit www.windstreambusiness.com.

About Windstream

Windstream Holdings, Inc. (NASDAQ:WIN), a FORTUNE 500 company, is a leading provider of advanced network communications and technology solutions for consumers, small businesses, enterprise organizations and carrier partners across the U.S. Windstream offers bundled services, including broadband, security solutions, voice and digital TV to consumers. The company also provides data, cloud solutions, unified communications and managed services to business and enterprise clients. The company supplies core transport solutions on a local and long-haul fiber-optic network spanning approximately 125,000 miles. Additional information is available at www.windstream.com. Please visit our newsroom at news.windstream.com or follow us on Twitter at [@Windstream](https://twitter.com/Windstream).

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