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Windstream Hosted Solutions Opens Fourth Data Center in Charlotte, North Carolina

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., March 3, 2014 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Windstream Hosted Solutions (Nasdaq:WIN), one of the nation's premier providers of enterprise-class managed hosting solutions, today announced the official opening of its fourth data center in Charlotte, N.C., bringing its nationwide total to 27.

The new enterprise-class data center is currently 39,300 square feet, with 10,380 square feet of raised floor space. Using a phased approach, Windstream Hosted Solutions plans to expand this new Charlotte data center to a total of 60,800 total square feet, with more than 20,500 square feet of raised floor space.

The state-of-the-art facility is the latest addition to Windstream Hosted Solutions' nationwide network of data centers, all designed to deliver colocation, dedicated server, managed services and disaster recovery solutions to enterprise customers all over the U.S.

"Demand for cloud-based and dedicated managed services continues to increase exponentially," said Chris Nicolini, Windstream's senior vice president of data center operations. "At Windstream, we are committed to designing and building data centers equipped with the highest levels of security and safety, with the redundancy and reliability our customers need, and the technology and scalability necessary to grow as their business grows."

"The greater Charlotte area has become a major enterprise data center hub with continued market growth expected," said Kelly Morgan, research manager at 451 Research. "Key sectors driving demand include financial services, transportation, healthcare, energy and education. Charlotte has also become an attractive hosting location for many of the top social media sites and content providers due to the availability of inexpensive power, robust fiber network infrastructure, educated workforce, and the advantage of locating in a relatively protected area from natural disasters."

This newest Charlotte data center features:

- 2N modular design for easy capacity expansion as needed
- Customer cabinets served with redundant A-Side/B-Side power feeds
- 3000kVA of day 1 utility capacity easily expanded to over 12MVA
- 1215kW of day 1 usable UPS capacity expandable to over 3600kW
- High efficiency chillers with 530 tons of cooling capacity, expandable to 1350 tons
- Fire suppression, including both FM200 and Dry-Pipe (double interlock pre-action fire suppression) and VESDA early detection system
- High capacity, burstable, carrier-neutral Internet connectivity via multiple Tier I Internet providers
- Customer workspace and build rooms
- On-site Network Operations Centers (NOCs), fully staffed 24 x 7 x 365, providing facilities and network monitoring, security, technical and remote-hands support
- High level of security controls, including two-factor method authentication consisting of biometric finger scan and access badge, electronic verification by Windstream Hosted Solutions personnel, video surveillance and individually secured cabinets requiring unique laser-etched keys

"Windstream's data centers—including this latest addition to the North Carolina market—offer customers greater efficiency and availability of IT resources and applications with our cloud technologies," said Matt Preschern, senior vice president and enterprise chief marketing officer at Windstream. "We have the capability to serve a wide range of customers, from national chains like Belk and Bojangles to smaller businesses located in cities all across the U.S., with our experienced team delivering our unique 'smart solutions, personalized service' brand promise to each customer."

Windstream Hosted Solutions offers a robust cloud computing solution that dramatically improves the efficiency and availability of IT resources and applications for enterprise businesses, allowing them to rapidly implement cloud services without capital investments so they can reshape their environment on demand. The Hosted Solutions suite includes public, private, and hybrid cloud products, available to businesses nationwide. These managed and dedicated hosting solutions, combined with Windstream's full line-up of advanced network communications and technology products—including voice and data services such as VoIP, SIP trunking, MPLS, and dedicated high-speed internet—allow Windstream to offer its customers a complete set of integrated services.

About Windstream

Windstream (Nasdaq:WIN), a FORTUNE 500 and S&P 500 company, is a leading provider of advanced network communications, including cloud computing and managed services, to businesses nationwide. The company also offers broadband, phone and digital TV services to consumers primarily in rural areas. For more information, visit www.windstream.com.

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