



March 11, 2013

Windstream Announces Nationwide Carrier Switched Ethernet Expansion

New Major Service Areas Stretch Across the United States

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., March 11, 2013 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- To meet the increasing demand from carriers for higher bandwidth and Ethernet, Windstream Corp. (Nasdaq:WIN) announced today at COMPTEL *PLUS* a nationwide expansion of its Carrier Switched Ethernet service. This expansion will allow Windstream to have ubiquitous availability within its entire footprint through existing network interconnects.

Windstream's Carrier Switched Ethernet gives carriers the ability to provide more cost-effective multi-location data solutions to their customers. The increased coverage area will enhance the current service offerings to include major metro areas across the United States such as New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Chicago, Houston, Dallas, Denver and Phoenix.

[Carrier Switched Ethernet](#) provides wholesale carriers access to both ILEC and CLEC exchanges within the Windstream network. With the solution, interconnect ports of 100 Mbps, 1 Gbps, and 10 Gbps are available, and end user loops from 3 Mbps to 1 Gbps are supported.

"By expanding our Carrier Switched Ethernet solution, our customers now have a broader ability to reach businesses with dependable Ethernet access," said Don Perkins, Windstream senior vice president of Business Marketing. "Ethernet expansion represents continued network and product integration, resulting in greater efficiency, consistency, and reliability for many organizations. This growth further positions Windstream as a key service provider in the carrier Ethernet industry."

Whether bandwidth speeds are being used for the transfer of voluminous content, such as video and high-resolution images, or for basic business services, such as email and documents, Windstream's [Carrier Switched Ethernet](#) service offers a breadth of options and can be customized to meet necessary requirements.

About Windstream

Windstream Corp. (Nasdaq:WIN) 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. Windstream has more than \$6 billion in annual revenues and is listed on the S&P 500 index. For more information, visit www.windstream.com.

The Windstream Corporation logo is available at <http://www.globenewswire.com/newsroom/prs/?pkgid=8314>

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Source: Windstream Corporation

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