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Windstream expands metro fiber network in Philadelphia

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

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 29, 2016 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- <u>Windstream</u> (NASDAQ:WIN), a leading provider of advanced network communications, today announced a major expansion of its advanced metro fiber network in <u>Philadelphia</u>. 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 with Windstream's high-speed, highly available nationwide fiber network.

"Our expansion in Philadelphia is part of a previously disclosed \$50 million investment that Windstream is making this year to upgrade our high-speed fiber network infrastructure, including both our long-haul network nationwide and our metro fiber networks in specific markets," said Brian Norton, regional president for Windstream. "This ambitious project will result in a new level of connectivity and network stability for businesses in Philadelphia, and it will have a major economic impact on Philadelphia. We are proud to be supporting the city's business community in this important way."

The Windstream expansion increases both the footprint of the company's network and the services that are available to local customers - including fixed wireless service, unified communications, managed services, network security, business continuity, network solutions and cloud services, all of which are provided with the support of a truly local team. This expansion also will allow Philadelphia-area 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.

Last month, Windstream announced a major expansion of its 100G long-haul express fiber transport network throughout the western United States, including Salt Lake City, Reno, Las Vegas and the Silicon Valley/San Francisco Bay Area. The expansion of Windstream's advanced metro fiber network in Philadelphia will better connect companies to those markets as well as to hundreds of other major and mid-size markets across the country via Windstream's nationwide backbone network.

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. In addition to this expansion in Philadelphia, Windstream is expanding its metro fiber networks in a number of other cities including Charlotte, Nashville, Richmond, Minneapolis, Atlanta, Chicago and Cleveland.

For more information on Windstream and the company's Philadelphia network expansion, please visit 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, businesses, enterprise organizations and wholesale customers 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 network spanning approximately 129,000 miles. Additional information is available at windstream.com. Please visit our newsroom at www.windstream.com or follow us on Twitter at @Windstream.

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