

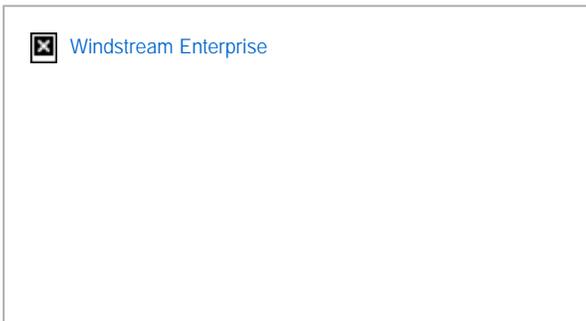


March 29, 2018

## Large southeast hospital enables the next level of patient care with network capability and security from Windstream Enterprise

### Hospital system takes a leading role in the development of private optical networks to meet the rigorous data demands of doctors and administrators

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., March 29, 2018 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Windstream Enterprise, a leading provider of advanced network communications, announced a major hospital in the Southeastern U.S. has positioned itself for superior connectivity and rapid growth by procuring a private optic network using Windstream Enterprise's [Wavelength Services](#). This continues the trend of healthcare providers breaking away from historic models to meet a growing need for raw bandwidth, transparency and direct control over management and protection schemes.



The need for greater security and continuity within the healthcare industry is largely driven by the 1996 Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), and has led to the widespread use of electronic healthcare records to comply with certain data security and business continuity standards. As a result, business continuity is more vital today than ever before in the healthcare world, driving service providers to support network investments that enable businesses to gain bandwidth, transparency, security and control advantages that mirror the capabilities only held by major carriers just a few years ago.

"In the healthcare world, delivering the best patient care is an around-the-clock job," says Joseph Harding, executive vice president and chief marketing officer for Windstream Enterprise and Wholesale. "High reliability and security are imperatives in healthcare, and it's up to the technology leaders within those organizations to ensure that they are taking advantage of new technologies like dark fiber, wavelength services and software-defined networking to protect against the loss of critical patient data, and patient communication channels due to an infrastructure failure."

Windstream Enterprise proudly leads U.S. communications providers in deploying the most advanced optical transport technology in the core. Through its continued expansion and investment at the edge in major markets across the U.S., Windstream Enterprise offers the value and benefits of innovative optical service that can easily be customized, implemented, expanded and managed.

"The hospital system's expansion plans meant a growing need for low-latency, high-bandwidth connectivity between its core hospitals, as well the ability to share operating software systems across an entire state, were top priorities," continues Harding. "The team determined that by providing core location connectivity with Wavelengths, their IT department could maintain complete control, ensure greater security and manage multiple virtual networks without service provider intervention."

In addition to [Wavelengths with Optical Encryption](#), Windstream Enterprise offers a range of complementary network and communications solutions including [SD-WAN](#) proprietary [OfficeSuite<sup>®</sup> UCaaS](#) solution, [integrated network security](#), and access, transport and business continuity solutions including [Ethernet](#) and [Fixed Wireless](#) that are collectively designed to

help businesses increase productivity, improve ROI and win. More at [windstreamenterprise.com](http://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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