



Windstream Achieves Silver Certification From Cisco

Silver Certification Confirms Windstream's Commitment to Service Delivery and Technology Development

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Jan. 20, 2011 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Windstream (Nasdaq:WIN) announced today it has achieved Silver Certification from Cisco®. To earn Silver Certification, Windstream had to meet rigorous standards for networking competency, service, support and customer satisfaction set forth by Cisco.

"Gaining Silver Certification from Cisco allows Windstream to provide our customers with more sophisticated levels of support for a variety of data systems and networking solutions," said Don Perkins, Windstream vice president of Business Marketing. "We are proud of this achievement, which acknowledges Windstream's commitment to service delivery and technology development."

"Cisco is committed to providing tools, training and programs to help drive partner growth, differentiation and profitability," said Edison Peres, senior vice president of worldwide channels for Cisco. "With advanced specializations in Unified Communications, Security and Wireless LAN, Windstream has made an investment in delivering the integrated and customized technology solutions today's customers demand."

In addition to advanced specializations, Windstream has integrated Cisco Lifecycle Services into its offerings and maintains high levels of customer satisfaction based on independently audited customer satisfaction surveys.

The Cisco Resale Channel Program provides partners with the training required to build sales, technical and Cisco Lifecycle Services skills, and then validates their skills through a third-party audit. Cisco resale partner certifications—Select, Premier, Silver and Gold—represent an increasing breadth of skills across key technologies and a partner's ability to deliver integrated networking solutions. Cisco resale partner specializations—Express, Advanced and Master—reflect an increasing depth of sales, technical and service expertise in particular technologies.

Windstream currently offers businesses a full suite of Cisco's data products, including routers, switches, wireless access devices and security and can deliver network solutions that provide secure, unconstrained connectivity between employees, customers, and information.

For more information about Windstream's converged communication solutions, or any of Windstream's next-generation data services, visit www.windstreambusiness.com.

For the latest news, events and information on advanced communication services, follow [@WindstreamBiz](https://twitter.com/WindstreamBiz) on Twitter or [Windstream Business](https://www.facebook.com/WindstreamBusiness) on Facebook and [WindstreamBiz](https://www.youtube.com/WindstreamBiz) on YouTube. Visit the [Windstream Business Blog](http://www.windstreambusiness.com/blog) for telecom industry trends and tips on improving your business communications.

About Windstream

Windstream Corp. (Nasdaq:WIN), headquartered in Little Rock, Ark., is an S&P 500 communications and technology company with operations in 29 states and the District of Columbia and about \$4 billion in annual revenues. Windstream provides IP-based voice and data services, MPLS networking, data center and managed hosting services and communication systems to businesses and government agencies. The company also delivers broadband, digital phone and high-definition TV services to residential customers primarily located in rural areas and operates a local and long-haul fiber network spanning approximately 60,000 route miles. For more information about Windstream, visit www.windstream.com.

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

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