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## **Babcock Ranch partners with CenturyLink for state-of-the-art communications network**

*Fiber connectivity combined with smart city technology will create community of tomorrow*

**FORT MYERS, Fla.** – [CenturyLink, Inc.](#) (NYSE: CTL) and Kitson & Partners today announced they will provide one of the fastest residential internet speeds available in the U.S. to residents of the new, solar-powered town of Babcock Ranch, now under construction in southwest Florida. CenturyLink will be the exclusive broadband provider in Babcock Ranch, delivering [gigabit internet service](#) over its fiber network to every home and business.

“Through our partnership with CenturyLink, we are able to leverage cutting edge technologies to deliver a whole new way of living that is both environmentally friendly and technologically advanced,” said Syd Kitson, chairman and CEO of Kitson & Partners. “With CenturyLink fiber built into the town’s infrastructure and available to every home and business, we’re able to provide high-quality broadband connectivity to our residents and business owners at a low cost.”

Once complete, Babcock Ranch is expected to have more than 19,000 residential units. CenturyLink’s data network will provide all residents access to internet speeds up to one gigabit per second, with even higher speeds available for area businesses. In addition, voice services and [CenturyLink Prism® TV®](#), CenturyLink’s interactive television service, will also be available to each residential unit.

“CenturyLink’s fiber network provides one of the most technologically advanced infrastructure available today with the connectivity and flexibility to adapt to future technologies,” said Danny Pate, vice president of operations in south Florida for CenturyLink. “We are excited and proud to provide the network for Babcock Ranch’s intelligent infrastructure. As the community grows, we will expand with it, helping to ensure residents, businesses and schools have the advanced technology they want and need.”

Fiber provides residents and businesses with one of the most in-demand amenities for a 21<sup>st</sup> century community – fast internet speeds with the bandwidth to use technology in a way that enhances everyday life. Residents will be able to stream multiple HD movies at the same time, upload huge files in seconds, video chat without interruption, play games in real time and engage in all aspects of social networking. Small businesses can use fiber to increase productivity and efficiency while working in the cloud, sharing multimedia files, streaming video content and backing-up data in real-time.

“We believe that providing a quality broadband network will be a catalyst for attracting premier technology companies to locate to southwest Florida and for encouraging home-based businesses and telecommuting,” Kitson said. “Gigabit broadband will be the two-way data conduit for municipal services, the fabric for social networks within the community, and the backbone for the smart grid security system, transportation network, health care network and much more.”

Celebration Communities, an Orlando based real estate technology advisory firm, led efforts to integrate CenturyLink’s community-wide fiber network commitment into the overall Babcock Ranch technology initiative.

“Babcock Ranch community members will be delighted by CenturyLink’s services,” said Amy Westwood, Celebration Communities president. “The CenturyLink network will ensure a solid technology foundation for Babcock Ranch that is woven throughout the community.”

Located just 20 minutes northeast of Fort Myers, the master plan encompasses nearly 18,000 acres that span the border between Charlotte and Lee counties. Phase 1 construction in Charlotte County includes 1,100 residential units and the initial commercial district of Founders Square, where the first buildings are nearing completion.

### **About CenturyLink**

[CenturyLink \(NYSE: CTL\)](#) is a global communications, hosting, cloud and IT services company enabling millions of customers to transform their businesses and their lives through innovative technology solutions. CenturyLink offers network and data systems management, Big Data analytics and IT consulting, and operates more than 55 data centers in North America, Europe and Asia. The company provides broadband, voice, video, data and managed services over a robust 250,000-route-mile U.S. fiber network and a 300,000-route-mile international transport network. Visit [CenturyLink](#) for more information.

### **About Kitson & Partners**

Kitson & Partners is a private residential and commercial real estate investment and development company based in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. Kitson & Partners’ portfolio includes 1.5 million square feet of retail shopping centers, 6.8 million square feet of commercial entitlements, and 21,500 entitled residential units. With a 24-year track record and long-term institutional capital, Kitson & Partners’ operational expertise and financial strength are unparalleled in the Florida real estate development business.

### **About Celebration Communities**

Since 1999, Celebration Communities has been assisting best in class real estate industry clients create meaningful technology initiatives, where technology is treated as an essential element in both planning and place making. We believe in real communities that have both a sense of place

and a soul. We carry a sense of adventure and the knowledge of our experiences with us to every project. We never stop learning.

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