CENTURYTEL INC

Form 4

February 18, 2005

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB Number: 3235-0287

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Expires: January 31, 2005

0.5

OMB APPROVAL

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section

Estimated average burden hours per response...

See Instruction

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * COLE DAVID D			Symbol		Ticker or Trading	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)			
(Last)	(First) (M	liddle) 3	3. Date of	Earliest Tra	ansaction	(Cile	ie)		
100 CENTU	RYTEL DRIVE	`	(Month/Da 02/17/20	•		Director Sr. VP	re title Otl below) Operations Su	her (specify	
(Street)			4. If Amendment, Date Original			6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check			
MONROE, I	LA 71203	F	Filed(Mon	th/Day/Year))	Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by Form filed by			
MOINTOL,	271 71203					Person			
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Table	e I - Non-D	erivative Securities Acq	quired, Disposed (of, or Beneficia	ally Owned	
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	Execution any	Date, if	Code	4. Securities Acquired on(A) or Disposed of (D)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	Indirect Beneficial	

							. , .		•
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)	n(A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
			Code V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		
Common Stock	02/17/2005		A	12,000	A	\$ 0	45,895.57	D	
Common Stock							4,221.08	I	By 401(k)
Common Stock							10,462.07	I	By ESOP
Common Stock							1,513.2	I	By ESOP Spouse (2)
Common Stock							2,005.76	I	By PAYSOP

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Common Stock	639.84	I	By PAYSOP Spouse (3)
Common Stock	10,447.67	I	By Stock Bonus Plan
Common Stock	2,688.9	I	By Stock Bonus Plan Spouse (4)

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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(9-02)

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of orDerivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and A Underlying S (Instr. 3 and	Securit
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amo or Num of Sh
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 33.4	02/17/2005		A	40,500	02/17/2005(5)	02/17/2015	Common Stock	40,
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 17.64					11/22/1995	05/22/2005	Common Stock	7,7
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 13.5					02/24/1997 <u>(6)</u>	02/24/2007	Common Stock	59,
Employee Stock Option	\$ 34.63					02/21/2001(7)	02/21/2010	Common Stock	85,

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(right to buy)					
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 28.03	05/21/2002(8)	05/21/2011	Common Stock	81,
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 32.99	02/25/2003(9)	02/25/2012	Common Stock	81,
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 27.48	02/24/2004(10)	02/24/2013	Common Stock	81,
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 28.34	02/25/2004(11)	02/25/2014	Common Stock	40,
Phantom Stock Units	\$ 0 <u>(12)</u>	<u>(13)</u>	<u>(13)</u>	Common Stock	3,68

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Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships				
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other	

COLE DAVID D

100 CENTURYTEL DRIVE Sr. VP - Operations Support

MONROE, LA 71203

Signatures

By: Kay C. Buchart, Attorney-In-Fact 02/18/2005

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) As of most recent statement available
- (2) As of December 31, 2003, the most recent statement available.
- (3) As of December 31, 2003, the most recent statement available.

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- (4) As of December 31, 2003, the most recent statement available.
- (5) One-third of the options are exercisable immediately, one-third are exercisable 2/17/06, and one-third are exercisable 2/17/07.
- One-third of the Stock Options are exercisable immediately, one-third are exercisable on 2/24/98, and one-third are exercisable on 2/24/99.
- One-third of the Stock Options are exercisable 2/21/2001, one-third are exercisable on 2/21/2002, and one-third are exercisable on 2/21/2003.
- (8) One-third of the Stock Options are exercisable 5/21/02, one-third are exercisable 5/21/03, and one-third are exercisable 5/21/04.
- (9) One-third of the Stock Options are exercisable 2/25/03, one-third are exercisable 2/25/04, and one-third are exercisable 2/25/05.
- (10) One-third of the Stock Options are exercisable 2/24/04, one-third are exercisable 2/24/05, and one-third are exercisable 2/24/06.
- (11) One-third of the options are exercisable immediately, one-third are exercisable 2/25/05, and one-third are exercisable 2/25/06.
- (12) Security converts on a 1-to-1 basis.
- (13) The reported phantom stock units were acquired under CTE's excess benefit plan and will be settled upon the reporting person's termination of service.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.