



Windstream to open downtown Rochester office

To donate \$100,000 for community center renovation and computer lab

Release date: Nov. 14, 2011

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. - Windstream Corp. (Nasdaq: WIN) announced today it plans to open an office in Rochester's Midtown Project site that can accommodate up to 335 employees following the completion of its acquisition of PAETEC Holding Corp.

Additionally, Windstream also announced it is donating \$100,000 to assist with the renovation of the David F. Gantt Community Center in Rochester. The contribution also will fund the installation of a computer lab in the center.

In downtown Rochester, Windstream has committed to leasing approximately 67,000 square feet of office space in the former Seneca Building in Midtown for 15 years beginning no later than August 2013.

Windstream also will maintain an office in the current PAETEC corporate headquarters at 600 WillowBrook Office Park in Fairport. Windstream and PAETEC teams continue to work on integration plans, and a final decision on staffing levels in Rochester has not been made.

"As we have said consistently since the PAETEC acquisition was announced in August, Windstream intends to maintain a significant presence in the Rochester area for a long time," said Jeff Gardner, Windstream president and CEO. "We have been engaged in a time-consuming and detailed analysis of our facility needs in Rochester, and I am pleased that we can be part of revitalizing the city's core. We look forward to obtaining the necessary regulatory approvals and closing the transaction before the end of the year."

"We appreciate the long term investment in Rochester by Windstream," said Mayor Thomas S. Richards. "The 15-year lease agreement will allow for the reuse of the Seneca Building and we will welcome hundreds of employees in the first development in the new Midtown Project. Special thanks to Governor Andrew Cuomo and to Senator Chuck Schumer for their help and support in getting this deal accomplished in such a short period of time. We look forward to Windstream being a successful part of our community and a successful part of downtown."

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The City of Rochester also announced it is withdrawing its opposition to Windstream's transaction with the Federal Communications Commission and the New York Public Service Commission and terminating the Land Disposition Agreement with PAETEC related to the Midtown development project as a result of Windstream's decision.

Windstream's commitment is contingent upon receipt of customary regulatory approvals and the successful closing of the transaction. Windstream expects to finalize and execute the lease by the end of the year.

About Windstream

Windstream Corp. (Nasdaq: WIN), headquartered in Little Rock, Ark., is an S&P 500 communications and technology solutions provider 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.

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