

## **Top U.S. and Latin American TV networks select CenturyLink to provide live feed of global soccer tournament**

**CenturyLink's Vyvx Solutions will deliver month-long championship event to viewers across the U.S., Mexico and Colombia**

MONROE, La., June 4, 2018 /[PRNewswire](#)/ -- [CenturyLink, Inc.](#) (NYSE: CTL) will transmit international distribution and unilateral feeds in support of this summer's global soccer championship to top networks in the U.S. and Latin America starting June 14. The networks – including Fox in the U.S., TV Azteca in Mexico, and RCN and Caracol in Colombia – will use CenturyLink's high quality, broadcast-based Vyvx Solutions to provide diverse routes in the transmission of tournament and content feeds from Moscow, Russia to each programmer's master control facilities.

"Fox's networks will broadcast 64 matches live, more than the previous four tournaments combined and the most ever for an English-language network," said Keith Goldberg, vice president of global operations and transmission services for Fox. "That's more than 350 hours of total programming, and CenturyLink will play a critical role in enabling us to deliver that content to millions of viewers across the U.S."

Some of the largest Latin American programmers are also leveraging CenturyLink's Vyvx for the event.

"Soccer is not a sport we take lightly in Mexico, and this particular competition is by far the biggest sporting event we broadcast, both in terms of number of viewers and the amount of technical expertise needed to deliver it to fans across our network," said Pedro Carmona Ortiz, technology director at TV Azteca, the second-largest mass media company in Mexico. "We trust CenturyLink – with their secure, global network and extensive technical experience transporting live feeds for large-scale events – to help us deliver an unparalleled tournament-watching experience."

CenturyLink's Vyvx Solutions will provide a variety of services for the event, including HD transmission, JPEG2K, MPEG4 encoding, decoding, onsite operations, monitoring and support, PTP data and internet, and frame rate conversion. For the first time in its delivery of the tournament, CenturyLink will offer 4K encoding, as many broadcasters and distributors now have the capability to deliver 4K and other high resolution content.

"RCN is dedicated to broadcasting the tournament in its entirety for our millions of viewers. By collaborating with CenturyLink, we will be able to provide our customers with smooth, uninterrupted access to every match," said Andrés Emilio Galeano Rey, technical vice president at RCN Television, which reaches 97 percent of the Colombian population through its 13 stations. "By collaborating with CenturyLink and using its Vyvx product, we will capture all of the emotions that come with this monumental event, as well as provide special coverage of the Colombian team."

For more than 20 years, Vyvx has delivered pristine video for some of the most-watched television events and programs around the world, providing both acquisition of content and delivery to global audiences.

"Caracol is committed to giving our viewers across Colombia a comprehensive soccer viewing experience, including live, up-to-the-minute coverage of this summer's global soccer tournament," said Augusto Cardona, chief channel officer for Caracol Televisión, one of the largest networks in Colombia. "Delivering large-scale, live events on a national scale is a complex endeavor, but with CenturyLink's depth of knowledge and experience, we're confident we'll meet our viewers' expectations."

Vyvx Solutions delivered more than 28 million broadcast minutes of live sports, news and entertainment services globally in 2017.

"In 2014, this soccer event reached 3.2 billion viewers, which is nearly half the world's population," said Bill Wohnoutka, vice president of global internet and content delivery services for CenturyLink. "The stakes for broadcasters providing this event, like Fox, TV Azteca, RCN and Caracol, are high. CenturyLink has a proven track record of delivering these large-scale events on a global scale, and we look forward to helping our customers provide a seamless viewing experience throughout the tournament."

## **Key Facts**

- Vyvx Solutions provides connectivity to more than 220 U.S. sporting venues.
- Vyvx Solutions broadcasts more than 10,000 sporting events annually.
- With Vyvx Linear Channel Distribution, a single high-quality feed can be replicated and delivered to multiple points across CenturyLink's reliable and secure global fiber network. Vyvx is a fast, scalable solution that provides programmers and distributors with the ability to turn up new channels using a simple operational environment.

## **Additional Resources**

- Learn more about CenturyLink's Vyvx Solutions:

<https://www.centurylink.com/business/networking/live-event-broadcasting.html>

- See how live sporting events are delivered to your TV, computer or mobile device:

<http://www.centurylink.com/asset/business/enterprise/infographic/en-vyvx-ig-gamecoverage.pdf>

## About CenturyLink

**CenturyLink** (NYSE: CTL) is the second largest U.S. communications provider to global enterprise customers. With customers in more than 60 countries and an intense focus on the customer experience, CenturyLink strives to be the world's best networking company by solving customers' increased demand for reliable and secure connections. The company also serves as its customers' trusted partner, helping them manage increased network and IT complexity and providing managed network and cyber security solutions that help protect their business.

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