

CenturyLink signs agreement with EagleForce Associates to provide government agencies with real-time monitoring of opioid prescriptions



WASHINGTON, April 4, 2017 / [PRNewswire](#)/ -- [CenturyLink, Inc.](#) (NYSE: CTL) has signed an exclusive sales and distribution agreement that provides federal, state and local government agencies with access to EagleForce Associates, Inc.'s proprietary advanced and predictive analytics technology that offers real-time monitoring of pharmaceutical medications, including opioid prescriptions. This strategic agreement extends CenturyLink's existing big data analytics practice and will help government agencies save lives and reduce prescription drug waste, fraud and abuse.

"America is facing an opioid abuse crisis, with more than 250 million painkillers prescribed each year," said Erich Sanchack, CenturyLink senior vice president and general manager, federal solutions. "Unfortunately, many health care stakeholders have been slow to adopt the latest evidence-based technologies and cutting-edge analytics that can significantly reduce prescription medication waste, fraud and abuse at the doctor's office or point-of-sale pharmacy."

Through this strategic agreement, CenturyLink will work with government agencies to apply EagleForce's real-time neural computing, machine learning and artificial intelligence

methodologies to verification procedures that help doctors, pharmacists and drug manufacturers more accurately identify the improper use and administration of opioid and other prescriptions.

Subscribers will also be able to more accurately identify relationships between health care providers, pharmacies and patients regarding prescription medications and insurance benefits, while drastically reducing the manual workflow and system latencies in existing prescription drug monitoring programs.

The EagleForce technology has an established connection to every retail pharmacy in the country for real-time benefit checks. These advanced analytics methodologies are designed to correctly identify patients across multiple disparate health care systems, including the ability to cross reference name and spelling variances across electronic medical records and pharmacy systems.

Through seamless integration and connection with CenturyLink's carrier-class network, the EagleForce Attestation Center for Program Integrity™ can perform a real-time audit of many government benefit processing systems, allowing pharmacists and health care providers to monitor the complete medication processing lifecycle. This auto-adjudication of electronic prescriptions, along with automated intake and screening, improves prescription claim processing and helps reduce prescription drug waste, fraud and abuse.

The opioid monitoring system also complies with the federal Anti-Kickback Statute, which restricts the use of pharmaceutical co-pay benefits by patients who are members of government health care plans.

The system's advanced analytics capabilities are used to distinguish between different types of government health plans, such as Medicare, Medicaid, Veterans Health Services, Department of Defense Tricare, Indian Affairs, Bureau of Prisons, Children's Health Insurance Program, and may be used to identify dual-eligible beneficiaries to coordinate plan benefits. It also provides an opportunity to review every claim instead of just a random sampling.

The CenturyLink and EagleForce teams are committed to helping health care providers seamlessly comply with various rules and regulations administered by the Drug Enforcement Administration, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Inspector General and other relevant agencies.

"This strategic agreement will allow CenturyLink and EagleForce to offer advanced analytics as a service to government agencies, thus equipping them with the first real-time tools to monitor and reduce the fraud, waste and abuse associated with the nation's opioid crisis," Sanchack said.

"Adopting these new technologies and methodologies will enable the government to more efficiently and effectively audit pharmaceutical manufacturers, pharmacy benefit managers and

retail pharmacies in real-time for potential violations, thus saving billions of dollars and thousands of lives."

"In this era of compliance, we believe our health enterprise technologies provide the most comprehensive real-time ability to look across the health care landscape to accurately monitor and restrict the improper utilization of medications and benefits," said EagleForce Associates Chief Operating Officer, retired U.S. Army Lt. Gen. John W. Morgan III.

By supplying big data and IT services over its carrier-class network, CenturyLink provides government agencies with the security and reliability they need to carry out their important missions.

This agreement is another step forward in providing services that have helped CenturyLink steadily climb the rankings to No. 34 on Washington Technology's 2016 Top 100 list of federal government IT contractors.

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 [EagleForce Associates, Inc.](#)

EagleForce Associates is an advanced analytics company that established its pedigree in the defense and intelligence sector of the government, solving some of the country's biggest challenges. The company has many patents in the area of eligibility and predictive analytics with a new focus on solving health care's biggest challenges with respect to disparate data interoperability, universal eligibility and predictive analytics. For more information, please contact us or visit our website: www.TheEagleForce.net.

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Media Contact

Linda M. Johnson

202-429-3130

linda.m.johnson@centurylink.com

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