

CENTURYTEL INC
Form 4
December 02, 2004

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

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 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
MASLOWSKI MICHAEL E

(Last) (First) (Middle)
100 CENTURYTEL DRIVE
(Street)

MONROE, LA 71203

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
CENTURYTEL INC [CTL]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
12/02/2004

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
Sr. VP & Chief Info. Off.

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	Price	
Common Stock	12/02/2004		M		27,001	A \$ 27.48	42,463.77 D
Common Stock	12/02/2004		S		27,001	D \$ 34	15,462.77 D
Common Stock							850.26 I By ESOP (1)
Common Stock							362.48 I By Stock Bonus Plan (2)

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

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SEC 1474
(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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4)
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 27.48	12/02/2004		M	27,001	02/24/2004 ⁽³⁾ 02/24/2013	Common Stock 27,001
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 28.34					02/25/2004 ⁽⁴⁾ 02/25/2004	Common Stock 40,500
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 45.54					03/24/2000 03/24/2009	Common Stock 19,100
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 34.63					02/21/2001 ⁽⁵⁾ 02/21/2010	Common Stock 50,000
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 28.03					05/21/2002 ⁽⁶⁾ 05/21/2011	Common Stock 81,000
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 32.99					02/25/2003 ⁽⁷⁾ 02/25/2012	Common Stock 81,000

buy)

Phantom

Stock \$ 0 ⁽⁸⁾

(9)

(9)

Common
Stock

987

Units

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
MASLOWSKI MICHAEL E 100 CENTURYTEL DRIVE MONROE, LA 71203			Sr. VP & Chief Info. Off.	

Signatures

By: Kay C. Buchart,
Attorney-In-Fact

12/02/2004

__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 December 31, 2003, the most recent statement available.

(2) As of December 31, 2003, the most recent statement available.

(3) 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.

(4) One-third of the options are exercisable immediately, one-third are exercisable 2/25/05, and one-third are exercisable 2/25/06.

(5) 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.

(6) 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.

(7) 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.

(8) Security converts on a 1-to-1 basis.

(9) 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.

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