

CENTURYTEL INC  
Form 4  
May 26, 2006

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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**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)  
**05/25/2006**

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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V Amount (A) or (D) Price   |   |  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    | 05/25/2006                           |  | S                              | 2,275 D \$ 35.16  | 35,491.41   | D  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 285.68  | I  | By 401(k) <u>(1)</u>              |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 1,453.77  | I  | By ESOP <u>(2)</u>                |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   | 376.6   | I  | By Stock Bonus Plan <u>(2)</u>    |

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

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**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 Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Amount or Number of Shares |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy)       | \$ 45.54   |                                      |  |                                |   | 03/24/2000 03/24/2009                                    | Common Stock  | 19,142                        |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy)       | \$ 34.63   |                                      |  |                                |   | 02/21/2001 <sup>(3)</sup> 02/21/2010                     | Common Stock  | 50,000                        |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy)       | \$ 32.99   |                                      |  |                                |   | 02/25/2003 <sup>(4)</sup> 02/25/2012                     | Common Stock  | 43,900                        |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy)       | \$ 33.4  |                                      |  |                                |   | 02/17/2005 <sup>(5)</sup> 02/17/2015                     | Common Stock  | 40,500                        |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy)       | \$ 35.41   |                                      |  |                                |   | 03/15/2007 <sup>(6)</sup> 02/20/2016                     | Common Stock  | 40,500                        |

