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EarthLink Announces New Chicago to Memphis Long Haul Fiber Route

Expansion includes Memphis Metro Ring

ATLANTA, Oct. 9, 2012 /PRNewswire/ -- EarthLink, Inc., a leading IT services and communications provider, today announced that it is expanding its network with a Memphis, TN to Chicago, IL long-haul fiber route slated for completion by the end of 2012, and a Memphis, TN metro fiber ring, which is expected to be completed in early 2013.

The new Memphis-to-Chicago long-haul route extends EarthLink network reach with up to 10 Gigabit service between these two cities and provides additional network diversity and redundancy. The Memphis metro fiber ring is a Wave/SONET-enabled OC-192 ring on the 10 Gigabit backbone designed to provide EarthLink with greater reach into the Memphis market and access to metro and cellular carriers in the city.

"EarthLink is very excited about the increased options, speed and reliability these network expansions will mean for our customers," said Jim O'Brien, Executive Vice President of Infrastructure Engineering & Operations for EarthLink. "This long haul route encompasses major wireless centers and importantly, provides a redundant connection point between our Northeast and Southeast fiber networks."

About EarthLink

EarthLink, Inc. (NASDAQ: ELNK) is a leading [IT services](#) and [communications](#) provider to more than 150,000 [businesses](#) and one million [consumers](#) nationwide. EarthLink empowers customers with managed services including [cloud computing](#), managed and private cloud, and [virtualization services](#) such as [managed hosting](#) and [cloud workspace](#). EarthLink also offers a robust portfolio of [IT security](#), [application hosting](#), [colocation](#) and IT support services. The company operates an extensive network spanning 28,800 route fiber miles with 90 metro fiber rings and 4 secure data centers providing ubiquitous nationwide [data and voice IP service](#) coverage across more than 90 percent of the country. Founded in 1994, EarthLink's award-winning reputation for outstanding service and product innovation is supported by an experienced team of professionals focused on best-in-class customer care. For more information, visit EarthLink's website at www.earthlink.net.

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