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19 Attorneys for Plaintiff Centre One, a Nevada corporation

20 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
21 **CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**  
22 **SOUTHERN DIVISION**

23 CENTRE ONE, a Nevada corporation,

24 Plaintiff,

25 vs.

26 LUMEN TECHNOLOGIES, INC. f/k/a  
27 CENTURLINK, INC., a Louisiana  
28 corporation,

Defendant.

Case No.

**COMPLAINT FOR PATENT  
INFRINGEMENT**

**Jury Trial Demanded**

1 Plaintiff CENTRE ONE files this Original Complaint against Defendant  
2 LUMEN TECHNOLOGIES, INC. f/k/a CenturyLink, Inc. alleging as follows:

3 **THE PARTIES**

4 1. CENTRE ONE (“Plaintiff” or “Centre One”) is a corporation organized  
5 and existing under the laws of the State of Nevada, authorized to do business in  
6 California, with a principal place of business in Aliso Viejo, California.

7 2. Defendant LUMEN TECHNOLOGIES, INC., f/k/a CenturyLink, Inc.  
8 (“Defendant”) is a corporation organized under the laws of Louisiana with a principal  
9 place of business at 100 CenturyLink Drive, Monroe, Louisiana 71203. Lumen may be  
10 served with process by serving C T Corporation System at 3867 Plaza Tower Drive,  
11 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70816.

12 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

13 3. This is an action for infringement of several United States patents. Federal  
14 question jurisdiction is conferred to this Court over such action under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331  
15 and 1338(a).

16 4. Defendant is among the largest telecommunications companies in the  
17 United States. Defendant operates and maintains a nationwide voice and data network  
18 through which it sells, leases, and offers for sale or lease products and services to  
19 businesses, consumers, and government agencies, including the Accused Products as  
20 described herein, within the Central District of California. Defendant maintains several  
21 regular and established places of business within the Central District of California  
22 including at 17836 Gillette Avenue, Irvine, California 92614 and at 200 N. Nash Street,  
23 El Segundo, California 90245. Defendant offers for sale and sells telecommunications  
24 products and services, including the Accused Products as described herein, from these  
25 locations.

26 5. Defendant has sufficient minimum contacts with the Central District of  
27 California such that this venue is fair and reasonable. Defendant has offered for sale and  
28 sold telephony products and services within Orange County, California and continues

1 to do so today. Defendant has committed such purposeful acts and/or transactions in  
2 this District that it reasonably should know and expect that they could be hailed into  
3 this Court as a consequence of such activity. Defendant has transacted and, at the time  
4 of the filing of this Complaint, continues to transact business within the Central District  
5 of California.

6 6. For these reasons, personal jurisdiction exists and venue is proper in this  
7 Court under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b) and (c) and 28 U.S.C. § 1400(b), respectively.

### 8 **BACKGROUND**

9 7. Centre One is the owner of all rights and title in and to U.S. Patent No.  
10 8,724,643 (“the ‘643 Patent”), U.S. Patent No. 7,486,667 (“the ‘667 Patent”). The ‘643  
11 and ‘667 Patents are sometimes referred to collectively hereinafter as “the Asserted  
12 Patents.” Plaintiff expressly reserves the right to assert additional patents against  
13 Defendant in this or subsequent lawsuits.

14 8. The inventor behind the patent applications that issued as the Asserted  
15 Patents is Donald S. Feuer, an early pioneer in the development of VoIP telephony. Mr.  
16 Feuer founded Centre One in 2006 and serves as its CEO. All rights in and title to the  
17 patent applications subsequently issuing as the Asserted Patents, including the rights of  
18 enforcement and to seek past damages, have been assigned to Centre One.

19 9. Mr. Feuer began working in telecommunications in the early 1990s,  
20 founding and managing several companies in the telecom space, including Newport  
21 Telecom, a company that branded cellular phones through the hospitality industry  
22 throughout the United States, including major hotels and car rental companies.

23 10. In or around 1995, Mr. Feuer developed and implemented a system for car  
24 rental companies to track their fleet of vehicles via cellular signals. Mr. Feuer also  
25 developed and implemented cellular services that interfaced with installed vehicles,  
26 which allowed the rental companies to communicate with the vehicle occupants in  
27 emergency situations, notify 911, and provide other services such as unlocking doors.  
28

1           11. In 1997, Mr. Feuer founded CentreCom Inc. (“CentreCom”) to offer circuit  
2 switched-based one number “follow-me” services causing calls to be simultaneously  
3 routed to several phones. Mr. Feuer sought to incorporate this “follow me” functionality  
4 within a unified messaging service accommodating the forwarding voice messages as  
5 text to email addresses and vice versa. Mr. Feuer’s work on these systems led to his  
6 work in VoIP technology and development of systems and methods for interfacing  
7 telephone, facsimile, email, and voicemail systems to accommodate real time call  
8 control over the Internet. Mr. Feuer invested considerable time and resources toward  
9 this pursuit over the following several years. Mr. Feuer focused on a system that would  
10 interface a telephone call with the internet, and then would send a notification to an  
11 interface connected to system when a call was received.

12           12. In early 1998, Mr. Feuer began working with engineers at Microsoft Corp.  
13 to refine aspects of the alpha version of its NetMeeting client that was intended to  
14 provide video through a computer-to-computer connection. Mr. Feuer also worked with  
15 Cisco Systems and Ethereal exploring signal conversions necessary to modify and  
16 integrate Cisco gateway and gatekeeper components with a switch to make and receive  
17 a call between a computer and a telephone on the Public Switched Telephone Network  
18 (“PSTN”), which were then incompatible communications systems. This invention  
19 became the basis of, and is utilized today in, nearly all Class 5 Communications,  
20 including cellular and commercial and home phone services.

21           13. By late 1998, Mr. Feuer had designed and developed a system of hardware  
22 and software capable of making and receiving phone calls using Internet Protocol (“IP”)  
23 communications, making connections between a telephone on the PSTN and his  
24 computer on an IP network. Mr. Feuer continued to further refine this system to improve  
25 its reliability, call quality, and services until it approached that of a standard telephone  
26 call made over the PSTN.

27           14. Mr. Feuer began demonstrating his inventions to Cisco, Microsoft, Sun  
28 Microsystems, Verizon, and others beginning in late January 1999 and throughout the

1 year. This led to Cisco funding and financing equipment and services for CentreCom to  
2 provide VoIP service, and CentreCom raised an additional round of funding and  
3 investments from other companies and individuals.

4 15. CentreCom was marketed as a Virtual Local Exchange Carrier to provide  
5 its Centre One phone-to-PC, PC-to-phone, and phone-to-phone telecommunications  
6 service through the Internet, and enhanced calling services for VoIP service including  
7 voice messaging, call screening, conference calling, unified messaging (faxes and  
8 emails as voicemails), and one number follow-me. In the fall of 1999, Microsoft  
9 showcased CentreCom at its booth at Comdex, a major industry gathering. This led to  
10 an article in Business Wire titled Microsoft Showcases Innovative Telecommunications  
11 Solutions from CentreCom in Comdex Booth. The article called CentreCom “one of the  
12 most innovative voice-over-Internet Protocol (VoIP) and switched global  
13 telecommunications service providers.”

14 16. In addition to his time with CentreCom, which concluded in 2002, Mr.  
15 Feuer continued to work in the telecom industry over the next two decades. Of note, he  
16 was employed by Defendant as a Tier 3 Engineer, participating in the implementation  
17 of network equipment, along with maintenance and troubleshooting of the network.

#### 18 **ASSERTED PATENTS AND TECHNOLOGY**

19 17. The Asserted Patents are directed to VoIP technology, and systems and  
20 methods for providing real-time voice communication between devices connected to an  
21 IP network and devices connected to a PSTN, and providing advanced services and  
22 features.

23 18. VoIP refers to a collection of technologies that digitize analog voice and  
24 transmit it over digital data channels using Internet Protocol (IP). VoIP involves,  
25 generally, conversion of analog voice to digital data which is then packetized as IP  
26 packets in accordance with certain standards, or protocols, for transmission over a  
27 packet-switched network. This transmission mode differs greatly from the circuit-  
28 switched transmission mode for voice signals on the PSTN.

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