

CenturyLink 3Q net income falls as expenses rise

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(AP) -- Phone company CenturyLink Inc. says its third-quarter net income fell as rising operating expenses related to its April acquisition of larger phone company Qwest overshadowed increased revenue.

In the July-September quarter, CenturyLink earned \$140 million, or 23 cents per share. This is 40 percent lower than the \$232 million, or 76 cents per share, a year earlier.

Excluding one-time items, the company earned 34 cents per share, matching estimates of analysts polled by FactSet.

Revenue rose to \$4.6 billion from \$1.7 billion, also in line with what analysts expected. Of this, \$2.7 billion came from Qwest.

CenturyLink expects fourth-quarter adjusted [net income](#) of 58 to 62 cents per share on revenue of \$4.6 to \$4.65 billion.

Analysts expect adjusted [earnings](#) of 34 cents per share on \$4.6 billion in revenue.

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