

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-A/A  
(Amendment No. 1)

FOR REGISTRATION OF CERTAIN CLASSES OF SECURITIES  
PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OR (g) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934



WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

46-2847717

(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

4001 Rodney Parham Road  
Little Rock, Arkansas

72212

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

Securities to be registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class  
to be so registered:

Preferred Stock Purchase Rights

Name of each exchange on which  
each class is to be registered:

NASDAQ Global Select Market

If this form relates to the registration of a class of securities pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Exchange Act and is effective pursuant to General Instruction A. (c) or (e), check the following box.

If this form relates to the registration of a class of securities pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Exchange Act and is effective pursuant to General Instruction A. (d) or (e), check the following box.

If this form relates to the registration of a class of securities concurrently with a Regulation A offering, check the following box.

Securities Act registration statement or Regulation A offering statement file number to which this form relates: Not applicable.

Securities to be registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None.

## **Explanatory Note**

This Form 8-A/A (Amendment No. 1) is being filed by Windstream Holdings, Inc. (the “Company”) to update the disclosure in the Company’s Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on September 18, 2015.

### **Item 1. Description of Registrant’s Securities to be Registered.**

#### ***Amendment of Rights Agreement***

On August 7, 2018, after receiving approval from the stockholders of the Company at the 2018 Annual Meeting, the Company entered into an amendment to the 382 Rights Agreement, dated as of September 18, 2015, as amended by Amendment No. 1 to 382 Rights Agreement, dated as of November 5, 2016 (collectively, the “Rights Agreement”), between the Company and Computershare Inc., as rights agent, to extend the term of the Rights Agreement to September 17, 2021 (subject to earlier expiration as described in the Rights Agreement).

The foregoing summary of the terms of the amendment to the Rights Agreement does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by the full text of the amendment, a copy of which is filed as Exhibit 4.3 hereto and is incorporated herein by reference.

### **Item 2. Exhibits.**

- Exhibit 3.1 Certificate of Designations of Series A Participating Preferred Stock of Windstream Holdings, Inc.(incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to Windstream Holdings, Inc.’s Form 8-K dated September 18, 2015).
  - Exhibit 4.1 382 Rights Agreement, dated as of September 17, 2015, by and between Windstream Holdings, Inc.and Computershare Trust Company, N.A., as Rights Agent (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Windstream Holdings, Inc.’s Form 8-K dated September 18, 2015).
  - Exhibit 4.2 Amendment No. 1 to 382 Rights Agreement, dated as of November 5, 2016, by and between Windstream Holdings, Inc. and Computershare Trust Company, N.A., as Rights Agent (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Windstream Holdings, Inc.’s Form 8-K dated November 10, 2016).
  - Exhibit 4.3 Amendment No. 2 to 382 Rights Agreement, dated as of August 7, 2018, by and between Windstream Holdings, Inc. and Computershare Trust Company, N.A., as Rights Agent.
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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereto duly authorized.

**WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS, INC.**

By: /s/ Kristi M. Moody  
Name: Kristi M. Moody  
Title: Senior Vice President - General Counsel & Corporate Secretary

August 7, 2018

**AMENDMENT  
TO  
382 RIGHTS AGREEMENT**

This Amendment No. 2 to 382 Rights Agreement (this "Amendment") is entered into as of August 7, 2018, by and between Windstream Holdings, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), and Computershare Trust Company, N.A., a federally chartered trust company (the "Rights Agent").

WHEREAS, the Company and the Rights Agent previously entered into that certain 382 Rights Agreement, dated as of September 17, 2015, as amended by Amendment No. 1 to 382 Rights Agreement, dated as of November 5, 2016 (collectively, the "Rights Agreement");

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Company has determined in good faith that the amendments to the Rights Agreement set forth herein are desirable, has duly authorized and adopted such amendment(s) to the Rights Agreement, and, pursuant to Section 27 of the Rights Agreement, has directed that such amendment(s) to the Rights Agreement be made;

WHEREAS, at the 2018 annual meeting of stockholders of the Company, the Company's stockholders authorized a three-year extension of the term of the Rights Agreement, which, but for the amendments to the Rights Agreement set forth herein, would expire on September 17, 2018 in accordance with the terms of the Rights Agreement;

WHEREAS, the Company has delivered to the Rights Agent a certificate executed by an appropriate officer of the Company stating that this Amendment is in compliance with the terms of Section 27 of the Rights Agreement; and

WHEREAS, for the purposes of this Amendment, capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the respective meanings set forth in the Rights Agreement, as amended by this Amendment.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and the mutual agreements herein set forth, the parties hereto hereby agree as follows:

1. Amendments.

(a) The Rights Agreement is hereby amended by deleting and replacing Section 1(s) thereof in its entirety as follows:

"(s) "Final Expiration Date" shall mean the date upon which the Rights expire and shall be the earlier of 5:00 P.M., New York City time on September 17, 2021, unless the Rights are previously redeemed, exchanged or terminated."

(b) Each of the Form of Rights Certificate and the Form of Summary of Rights to Purchase Stock Under 382 Rights Agreement attached to the Rights Agreement as Exhibits B and C, respectively, are hereby amended such that each reference to "September 17, 2018" shall be replaced with a reference to "September 17, 2021".

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2. Severability. If any term, provision, covenant or restriction of this Amendment is held by a court of competent jurisdiction or other authority to be invalid, void or unenforceable, the remainder of the terms, provisions, covenants and restrictions of this Amendment shall remain in full force and effect and shall in no way be affected, impaired or invalidated.

3. Descriptive Headings. Descriptive headings of the several Sections of this Amendment are inserted for convenience only and shall not control or affect the meaning or construction of any of the provisions hereof.

4. Governing Law. This Amendment shall be deemed to be a contract made under the laws of the State of Delaware and for all purposes shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of such State applicable to contracts to be made and to be performed entirely within such State, without regard to conflict-of-law principles.

5. References. Any reference to the Rights Agreement after the date first set forth above shall be deemed to be a reference to the Rights Agreement, as amended by this Amendment.

6. Counterparts. This Amendment may be executed in any number of counterparts and each of such counterparts shall for all purposes be deemed to be an original, and all such counterparts shall together constitute but one and the same instrument. A signature to this Amendment executed and/or transmitted electronically shall have the same authority, effect, and enforceability as an original signature.

*[Signature page follows]*

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Amendment to be duly executed, all as of the day and year first above written.

**WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS, INC.**

By: /s/ Kristi Moody  
Name: Kristi Moody  
Senior Vice President - General Counsel  
Title: and  
Corporate Secretary

**COMPUTERSHARE TRUST COMPANY, N.A.,  
as Rights Agent**

By: /s/ David L. Adamson  
Name: David L. Adamson  
Title: Senior Vice President