

# About BTC

Brantley Telephone Company is your incumbent local exchange carrier, serving thousands of customers throughout Brantley County, Georgia, as well as small portions of Camden, Charlton, Glynn and Wayne Counties. Owned and operated by Dr. A.W. Strickland and his family, BTC takes pride in delivering the latest technology to its customers. BTC operates a cutting edge fiber-to-the-home (FTTH) network that offers reliable landline telephone, unmatched broadband data speeds, and an IP-based television system that is one of the first of its kind.

Brantley Telephone Company was established in April 1945, when Dr. Strickland's parents, Avery and Lena Strickland, took what many thought was a big risk and purchased a small rural telephone system with 52 subscribers. By 1952, they had greatly improved service quality and grown to 200 subscribers. It was in that year that Brantley Telephone Company was granted a corporate charter. Also in 1952, BTC applied for and received a loan from the Rural Electrification Administration's new telephone program. This allowed the company to expand its service area and be the first company in South Georgia to upgrade to rotary-dial service.

In 1965, BTC upgraded from eight-party to four-party lines and on June 11, 1970, was the first to provide Direct Distance Dialing, eliminating the need for operator assistance on a long-distance call.

In 1985, Avery Strickland was inducted into the Peach State Chapter, Independent Telephone Pioneer Association Hall of Fame, in recognition of his outstanding achievement, dedication, and loyalty to the telecommunications industry.

In 1986, with the customer base now reaching 2,500, the company deployed new digital switching equipment.

In 1991, Avery "Wade" Strickland, M.D., the oldest child of Avery and Lena Strickland, purchased the company's outstanding stock from his four sisters. Dr. Strickland continues to serve as President of Brantley Telephone Company, with his son Donovan serving as Vice President and General Manager.

In 1993, the company cut over its first fiber-optic cables and upgraded its facilities to provide one-party service across its entire service area. In 1995, BTC upgraded to a digital class-5 central office switch, which provided many more calling features. By 1997, Dial up Internet was introduced, and in 2002 high speed DSL.

In 2006, maintaining the commitment of offering customers the most advanced services available, BTC embarked on the largest construction project in its history - a complete conversion of its 1100 miles of copper telephone infrastructure to a new fiber-to-the-home network. As customers were moved to fiber, they were able to receive higher internet speeds than ever before seen in Brantley County. By 2011, with much of the county upgraded to the new fiber network, BTC launched Internet Protocol Television (IPTV).

In 2015, BTC completed its conversion from copper and became one of the first 100% fiber-to-the-home telephone companies in the area.

Today, in 2017, Brantley Telephone Company's goal remains - **Provide customers with high-quality telecommunications services at competitive rates, with local customer care.**

