



EchoStar Communications Corporation Successfully Completes Debt Tender Offer For Exchange Notes

LITTLETON, Colo.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Feb. 2, 1999--EchoStar Communications Corporation (the "Company") (NASDAQ: DISH, DISHP) announced today that it had successfully completed the previously announced cash tender offer to purchase all of its 12 1/8% Senior Exchange Notes (the "Exchange Notes").

The Company confirmed that over 99% of the outstanding aggregate principal amount of the Exchange Notes was tendered by the consent solicitation deadline.

EchoStar Communications Corp., includes three interrelated business units:

- o DISH Network™ is EchoStar's state-of-the-art DBS system that offers customers over 300 channels of digital video and CD-quality audio programming, fully MPEG-2/DVB compliant hardware, installation, financing and leasing.

- o EchoStar Technologies Corporation (ETC, formerly HTS™ - Houston Tracker Systems, Inc.), designs, manufactures and distributes DBS set-top boxes, antennas and other digital equipment for DISH Network and various international customers that include ExpressVu Canada and Telefonica's Via Digital system in Spain. ETC also provides uplink-center design, construction oversight and project-integration services for customers internationally.

- o Satellite Services provides the delivery of video, audio and data services to business television customers and other satellite users. These services include satellite uplink, satellite transponder space-usage and other services. Satellite Services also administers Sky Vista, a direct broadcast satellite service offering up to 27 channels of popular digital satellite television programming to viewers in Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the U.S. territories in the Caribbean.

DISH Network currently serves over 2 million customers. DISH Network is a trademark of EchoStar Communications Corporation. HTS is a trademark of Houston Tracker Systems, Inc. DISH Network is located on the Internet at: www.dishnetwork.com

Certain matters discussed in this statement are "forward looking statements" intended to qualify for the safe harbors from liability established by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995.

These "forward looking statements" can generally be identified as such because the context of the statement will include words such as the Company "believes," "anticipates," "expects," or words of similar import. Similarly, statements that describe the Company's future plans, objectives or goals are forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those currently anticipated. Such risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to: a total or partial loss of a satellite due to operational failures, space debris or otherwise; uncertainty as to the Company's future profitability; the Company's ability to develop and implement operational and financial systems to manage rapidly growing operations; an increase in competition from cable television, Direct Broadcast Satellite ("DBS"), other satellite system operators, and other providers of subscription television services; the introduction of new technologies and competitors into the subscription television business; a merger of existing DBS competitors; the Company's ability to integrate and successfully operate acquired businesses and the risks associated with such businesses; the Company's ability to obtain financing on acceptable terms to finance the Company's growth strategy and for the Company to operate within the limitations imposed by financing arrangements; uncertainty as to the future profitability of acquired businesses; trends in the cable television, broadcast television and satellite television industries; impediments to the retransmission of local or distant broadcast network signals; a decrease in sales of digital equipment and related services to international service providers; a decrease in Dish Network subscriber growth; an increase in subscriber acquisition costs; lower than expected demand for the Company's delivery of local broadcast network signals; changes in relationships with customers; changes in the regulatory environment, such as the inability of the Company to retain necessary authorizations from the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") or a change in the regulations governing the subscription television service industry; the outcome of pending litigation and regulatory inquiries; an unexpected business interruption due to the failure of third parties to remediate Year 2000 issues; failure to consummate EchoStar's pending acquisition with The News Corporation Limited and MCI WorldCom, Inc. whereby the Company would issue equity securities in exchange for two satellites that have not yet been completed or the failure of such satellites to be successfully launched or to become operational or a delay in such launch or operation; and the impact of accounting policies required to be adopted. Other factors that could materially affect such forward-looking statements can be found in EchoStar's periodic reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Shareholders, potential investors and other readers are urged to consider these factors carefully in evaluating the forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements made herein are only made as of the date of this statement and EchoStar undertakes no obligation to publicly update such forward-looking statements to reflect subsequent

events or circumstances.

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KEYWORD: COLORADO

INDUSTRY KEYWORD: ENTERTAINMENT TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMED
COMPUTERS/ELECTRONICS