

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL

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or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Schaefer Germar</u>	2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year) 05/17/2004	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>ECHOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS CORP [DISH]</u>	
		4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <u>SVP, Chief Information Ofc.</u>	5. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year) 05/17/2004
(Last) (First) (Middle) 9601 S. MERIDIAN BOULEVARD			6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
(Street) ENGLEWOOD CO 80112			
(City) (State) (Zip)			

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
Class A Common Stock	8,000	D	
Class A Common Stock	320	I	I ⁽¹⁾

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date				
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	(2)	(3)	Class A Common Stock	9,600	10.203	D
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	(4)	03/31/2013	Class A Common Stock	20,000	28.88	D

Explanation of Responses:

- By 401(k) Plan.
- The shares underlying the option vested at the rate of 20% per year, commencing on March 31, 2000.
- Each portion of the option expires five years from the date on which that portion of the option first becomes exercisable.
- The shares underlying the option vested at the rate of 20% per year, commencing on March 31, 2004.

Remarks:

Dr. Germar Schaefer 07/01/2004

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5 (b)(v).

** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.