

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

OMB APPROVAL	
OMB Number:	3235-0287
Estimated average burden hours per response:	0.5

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>ERGEN CHARLES W</u> (Last) (First) (Middle) 9601 S. MERIDIAN BLVD. (Street) ENGLEWOOD CO 80112 (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>ECHOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS CORP</u> [DISH]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) Chairman and CEO
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/07/2006	
		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Class A Common Stock	03/07/2006		A ⁽¹⁾		125	A	(2)	214,027	D	
Class A Common Stock	03/07/2006		A ⁽¹⁾		125	A	(2)	235	I	I ⁽³⁾
Class A Common Stock								350,000	I	I ⁽⁴⁾
Class A Common Stock								16,800	I	I ⁽⁵⁾
Class A Common Stock								18,408	I	I ⁽⁶⁾
Class A Common Stock								922	I	I ⁽⁷⁾

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date					

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*
ERGEN CHARLES W
 (Last) (First) (Middle)
 9601 S. MERIDIAN BLVD.
 (Street)
 ENGLEWOOD CO 80112
 (City) (State) (Zip)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*
ERGEN CANTEY
 (Last) (First) (Middle)
 9601 S. MERIDIAN BOULEVARD
 (Street)
 ENGLEWOOD CO 80112
 (City) (State) (Zip)

Explanation of Responses:

1. Award granted for no consideration to all eligible employees upon achievement of a Company milestone.
2. Not applicable.
3. Held by Ms. Cantey Ergen.
4. Held by a Grantor Retained Annuity Trust ("GRAT"). The reporting persons disclaim beneficial ownership of the shares, except to the extent of their pecuniary interest therein.
5. The shares are held by a custodian for the reporting persons' minor children. The reporting persons disclaim beneficial ownership of the shares, except to the extent of their pecuniary interest therein.
6. Held by Mr. Charlie Ergen in a 401(k) account.
7. Held by Ms. Cantey Ergen in a 401(k) account.

Remarks:

/s/ Charles W. Ergen by Robert 03/17/2006
Rehg, his Attorney in Fact

/s/ Cantey M. Ergen by Robert 03/17/2006
Rehg, his Attorney in Fact

** 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 4 (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.