



February 6, 2013

Hughes Executive Testifies at FCC's Hearing on Superstorm Sandy

Focus on Critical Role of Satellite Networks When Disaster Strikes

GERMANTOWN, Md., Feb. 6, 2013 /PRNewswire/ -- Hughes Network Systems, LLC (HUGHES), the global leader in broadband satellite solutions and services, today announced that Tony Bardo, head of Government Solutions at Hughes, testified before the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) first post-Superstorm Sandy field hearing, examining challenges to the nation's communications networks during natural disasters and in other times of crisis.

(Logo: <http://photos.prnewswire.com/prnh/20110112/NE29456LOGO>)

"Hughes is honored to play an important part in supporting government and non-profit organizations in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy," said Bardo. "These hearings represent an important first step in identifying lessons learned that can help to ensure that our nation's communications networks are more reliable and resilient when disaster strikes."

WHAT: FCC Post-Superstorm Sandy Field Hearing on Disaster Communications
Panel #2: Assessing Network Resiliency — Lessons from Sandy

WHEN: February 5, 2013
11:00 a.m.

WHERE: Alexander Hamilton U.S. Customs House (Manhattan)
1 Bowling Green
New York, NY 10004

Bardo summarized the vital role of satellite networks in keeping emergency responders, businesses and people connected during the storm and in its aftermath.

- Help for Rockaway, NY: The Rockaway and Far Rockaway areas of Queens, NY—home to between 175,000 and 200,000 people—were hit hard during the storm and had little or no communications. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) opened Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) in the area, providing much needed information about recovery services such as housing/rental assistance and referrals to other assisting agencies (e.g., Department of Veterans Affairs, Social Security Administration, Small Business Administration). With terrestrial lines down, volunteers and disaster victims couldn't make calls or apply for services online. Hughes responded promptly by providing DRCs with its broadband terminals and high-speed satellite broadband service.
- Help for Habitat for Humanity: Over 100 homes were lost in the Breezy Point area of New York from a six alarm fire that ensued during Superstorm Sandy. Habitat for Humanity set up a command center nearby to help coordinate the rebuilding efforts; however, no terrestrial communications were available. The Global VSAT Forum put out a call to its members, and Hughes and Cisco joined in the recovery effort providing key communications capabilities, including broadband services.
- Help finding an open gas station, hotel, restaurant, or ATM: Hughes customer sites across the devastated region include thousands of gas stations, restaurants, pharmacies and hotels. Hughes provided a valuable service to the All Hazards Consortium (AHC) by identifying those with power and helping to quickly disseminate information to emergency responders. This information was regularly updated daily and was provided to officials in the impacted FEMA regions, the first responder community and key emergency operations centers.

About Hughes Network Systems

Hughes Network Systems, LLC (Hughes) is the world's leading provider of satellite broadband for home and office, delivering innovative network technologies, managed services, and solutions for enterprises and governments globally. HughesNet® is the #1 high-speed satellite Internet service in the marketplace, with offerings to suit every budget. To date, Hughes has shipped more than 3.3 million systems to customers in over 100 countries, representing over 50 percent market share. Its products employ global standards approved by the TIA, ETSI and ITU organizations, including IPoS/DVB-S2, RSM-A, and GMR-1.

Headquartered outside Washington, D.C., in Germantown, Maryland, USA, Hughes operates sales and support offices worldwide, and is a wholly owned subsidiary of EchoStar Corporation (NASDAQ: SATS), a premier global provider of satellite

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