

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549
FORM 4
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 Instructions 1(b).

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person
Peterson, Mary P.
5701 South Santa Fe Drive
Littleton, CO 80120
U.S.A.

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
EchoStar Communications Corporation
DISH

3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person (Voluntary)

4. Statement for Month/Year
1/00

5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)

6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)
() Director () 10% Owner () Officer (give title below) (X) Other
(specify below)
Vice President - Marketing

7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)
(X) Form filed by One Reporting Person
() Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I -- Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned										
1. Title of Security	2. Transaction Date	3. Transaction Code	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Month	6. Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership		
			Amount	A/D	Price					
Class A Common Stock	1/28/00	A	10	A	(1)	90	D			
						928	I	(2)		
						100	D	(3)		

Table II -- Derivative Securitites Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned												
1.Title of Derivative Security	2.Con- version or Exer- cise Price of Deriva- tive Secu- rity	3. Transaction Date	4. Code	5.Number of De- rivative Secu- rities Acqui- red(A) or Dis- posed of(D) Amount	6.Date Exer- cisable and Expiration Date(Month/ Day/Year) Date Expir- ation Date	7.Title and Amount of Underlying Securities Title and Number of Shares	8.Price of Deri- vative Secu- rity	9.Number of Deriva- tive Securities Benefi- cially Owned at End of Month	10. Dir- ect (D) or Ind- irect (I)	11.Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership		

Explanation of Responses:
(1) The shares were awarded without cost to the reporting person, pursuant to the 1999 Launch Bonus Plan of the Company for past services to the Company.
(2) On March 19, 1999, the Company issued an additional 65,000 shares of Class A Common Stock to EchoStar Communications Corporation's 401(k) Employees' Savings Plan (the "Plan"). The number of shares reported in column 5 represents the total number of shares allocated to the reporting person's account through the Plan to date. The reporting person has dispositive, but no voting power with respect to the shares.
(3) The number of shares in column 5 represents the total number of shares purchased by the reporting person through EchoStar Communications Corporation's 1997 Employee Stock Purchase Plan to date.