

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  
3/00
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	3/31/00	J	(2)	V	1	A	67.15	215 (1)	D	(2)
								180 (1)	D	
								2,082 (1)	I	(3)

Table II -- Derivative Securites 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 Secu rities Benefi cially Owned at End of Month	10. Dir ect (D) Ind irect (I)	11.Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership	

Explanation of Responses:

(1) The shares have been adjusted to reflect the Company's two-for-one splits of the Company's common stock, which took place in July 1999, October 1999 and March 2000.

(2) 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.

(3) On March 8, 2000, the Company issued an additional 60,000 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.