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Hughes Awarded Satellite Broadband Contract by New England Telehealth Consortium

Company to Provide High-Speed Satellite Services for Mobile Telehealth Clinics

GERMANTOWN, Md., Jan. 9, 2013 /PRNewswire/ -- Hughes Network Systems, LLC (HUGHES), the global leader in broadband satellite solutions and services, and a leading provider of managed network and application services, today announced that it has been awarded a four year contract by the New England Telehealth Consortium (NETC) to provide high-speed satellite services for mobile telehealth clinics throughout rural communities in Northern New England.

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

NETC is a federally funded consortium of healthcare providers, serving more than 400 sites in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont. Its mandate is to create a shared network among rural and urban healthcare facilities, research and academic institutions, and medical specialists to improve patient care across the region.

"NETC is working to build an affordable, high quality of service, private telecommunications network that will provide healthcare providers with quick and convenient access to the latest research and medical advances, speed the sharing of medical records and provide access for remote medical diagnostics and surgery, dentistry, and behavioral health treatment," said Brian Thibeau, President of NETC. "Leveraging satellite broadband is a game changer for telehealth, especially for patients in rural areas who will now be able to receive top quality care through enhanced telemedicine and information sharing. It is exciting to make a difference in the healthcare of New Englanders by bringing them innovative technology solutions like this."

Under the contract, Hughes will supply its high-performance routers which are integrated with AvL Technologies' auto-deploy antenna, enabling video conferencing, prescription dispensing, voice calls, transfer of Electronic Health Records, viewing of digital images, telemedicine, and digital messaging. This powerful transportable solution can be set up rapidly and automatically establishes connectivity with the Hughes SPACEWAY 3 broadband satellite throughout the NETC service area, harnessing the power of its on-board switching and spot beam technology.

"By using the Hughes and AvL transportable solution, healthcare providers in Northern New England will have access to current research, improved medicine, and support from medical experts through enhanced telemedicine," said Tony Bardo, assistant vice president for [government solutions](#) at Hughes. "This is another great example of how satellite technology can help improve people's lives."

ProInfoNet, an independent telecommunications and computer consulting firm, was selected by NETC to manage the implementation and is working together with Hughes and AvL to deliver the telehealth network.

"We are excited that NETC's mobile clinics will have access to telemedicine and Electronic Health Records through the Hughes SPACEWAY satellite system," said Jim Rogers, President of ProInfoNet. "Patients can now receive excellent remote medical care whether a mobile clinic is parked in rural Maine or docked at an offshore island. This satellite technology allows medical providers at NETC connected hospitals to provide telemedicine services to NETC mobile clinics across the region."

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 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 operations and digital TV solutions. For additional information about Hughes, please visit www.hughes.com.

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