SEC	Form	4
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## FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549 

Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable

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

Other (specify below)

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).		STATE	Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934		Estimated average burden hours per response:	
1. Name and Addres DEFRANCO (Last) 9601 SOUTH M	(First)	(Middle)	or Section 30(h) of the investment Company Act of 1940   2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol   ECHOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS CORP [   DISH ]   3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)   03/31/2005	5. Relationship of (Check all applical X Director X Officer (g below) Exe	ble)	10% Owner Other (spec below)
(Street) ENGLEWOOD (City)	CO (State)	80112 (Zip)	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	1	d by One Repo	

## 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)	ion Date, Transa Code (		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported	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	Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		(1130.4)

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. Transa Code ( 8)		5. Number Derivativ Securitie Acquired or Dispos of (D) (In 3, 4 and 5	re ss I (A) sed str.	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)	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	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		(Instr. 4)		
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$29.25	03/31/2005		М		300,000		(1)	03/31/2015	Class A Common Stock	300,000	\$0	300,000	D	

Explanation of Responses:

1. The grant is subject to achievement of certain performance criteria and will vest at the rate of 10% per year commencing March 31, 2006 until March 31, 2009 and then at the rate of 20% thereafter. **Remarks:** 

## /s/ James DeFranco

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

04/04/2005

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.