Eutelsat and Facebook Choose Hughes JUPITER™ System For Africa Broadband Initiative

Selection of Hughes marks critical milestone for delivery of broadband satellite services across Sub-Saharan Africa

GERMANTOWN, Md., May 9, 2016 /PRNewswire/ -- Eutelsat Communications (NYSE Euronext Paris: ETL) and Facebook have selected Hughes Network Systems, LLC (Hughes) to supply its JUPITER™ System as the technology platform for satellite broadband services that both companies are preparing to launch in Sub-Saharan Africa.

With the selection of the JUPITER System, along with high-gain Ka-band spot beam capacity provided by Spacecom's AMOS-6 satellite, Eutelsat and Facebook are assembling a dedicated infrastructure that will extend cost-effective broadband to areas of Sub-Saharan Africa beyond reach of fixed and mobile terrestrial networks. The AMOS-6 satellite is due to enter service in early 2017.

The JUPITER System configuration purchased by Eutelsat includes three gateway stations, two centralized data centers, a comprehensive network management system and an initial number of user terminals.

For Facebook, the system will support its Express Wi-Fi project, intended to expand connectivity to underserved locations by working closely with operators, Internet service providers, and local entrepreneurs. Eutelsat will employ the system as a key platform to drive growth of premium consumer and professional Internet connectivity services in Sub-Saharan Africa.

"We evaluated all major broadband system vendors before selecting Hughes. Their decades of experience in satellite technology and the JUPITER System's proven capabilities made it our preferred choice for this exciting venture with Facebook," said Laurent Grimaldi, CEO of the new broadband company created by Eutelsat to steer its African broadband vision and business.

"Internet access is synonymous with economic and social development in today's digital economy," said Ramesh Ramaswamy, senior vice president, International at Hughes. "We are proud to be part of this important initiative to close the digital divide in Sub-Saharan Africa — connecting people to information and resources that can transform their lives for the better."

Featuring a flexible and robust gateway architecture with lights-out operation, enhanced air interface for bandwidth efficiency, and high-throughput terminals, the JUPITER System enables operators to achieve the highest possible capacity and efficiency for any satellite broadband implementation. The foundational technology is the powerful JUPITER System on a Chip (SoC), a custom-designed VLSI (Very Large Scale Integration) processor employing a multi-core architecture and enabling more than 100 Mbps of throughput on every terminal in the JUPITER family.

About Hughes Network Systems

Hughes Network Systems, LLC (Hughes) is the global leader in satellite broadband for home and office, delivering innovative solutions and a comprehensive suite of HughesON™ managed services for enterprises and governments worldwide. 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 5 million systems to customers in over 100 countries, representing approximately 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.

About EchoStar
EchoStar Corporation (NASDAQ: SATS) is a premier global provider of satellite and video delivery solutions. Headquartered in Englewood, Colo., and conducting business around the globe, EchoStar is a pioneer in secure communications technologies through its EchoStar Satellite Services, EchoStar Technologies Corporation and Hughes Network Systems business segments.

For more information, visit echostar.com. Follow @EchoStar on Twitter.

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