

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
 Dugan, Michael T.
 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
 12/31/00
5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)
6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)
 () Director () 10% Owner (X) Officer (give title below) () Other
 (specify below)
 President - Echostar Technologies Corporation
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) Amount	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Month	6. Director (D) or Indirect (I)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
Class A Common Stock	12/20/00	M	30,000	\$2.125	D	
				17,017	I	(1)

Table II -- Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Derivative Security	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative	3. Transaction Date	4. Transaction Code	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) Amount	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities Title and Number of Shares	8. Price of Derivative Security	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Month	10. Director (D) or Indirect (I)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$2.125	12/20/00	M	7,060	(2) (3)	Class A Common Stock 7,060		0		
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$2.125	12/20/00	M	11,947	(4) (3)	Class A Common Stock 11,947		19,669		
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$2.125	12/20/00	M	10,993	(5) (3)	Class A Common Stock 10,993		48,959		

Explanation of Responses:

- (1) 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.
- (2) The shares underlying the option, listed in column 5, vest at the rate of 20% per year, commencing on June 20, 1996.
- (3) Each portion of the option expires five years from the date on which that portion of the option first becomes exercisable.
- (4) The shares underlying the option, listed in column 5, vest at the rate of 20% per year, commencing on December 22, 1996.
- (5) The shares underlying the option, listed in column 5, vest at the rate of 20% per year, commencing on August 1, 1997.

SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON
 Michael T. Dugan

DATE
 1/4/01