

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

12/31/99

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. 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			
Class A Common Stock	12/8/99	M	10,000	A	\$4.25		
Class A Common Stock	12/8/99	S	10,000	D	\$94.30		
Class A Common Stock	12/8/99	M	17,400	A	\$4.25		
Class A Common Stock	12/8/99	S	17,400	D	\$95.00		
Class A Common Stock	12/8/99	M	2,600	A	\$4.25		
Class A Common Stock	12/8/99	S	2,600	D	\$95.06	160 (1)	D
					8,372 (1)	I	(2)

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

1. Title of Derivative Security	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date	4. Code	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities	8. Price of Derivative Security	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Month	10. Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
				Amount	A/D						
Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$4.25	12/8/99	M	30,000	D	(3) (4)	Class A Common Stock	30,000	336,518		

Explanation of Responses:

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

(2) On March 19, 1999, the Company issued an additional 65,000 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.

(3) The shares underlying the option vest at a rate of 20% per year, commencing on December 31, 1998.

(4) Each portion of the option expires five years from the date on which that portion of the option first becomes exercisable.

SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON  
 Michael T. Dugan