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Springleaf Grows Consumer Loan Business with HughesON Network Services

GERMANTOWN, Md., June 30, 2015 /PRNewswire/ -- Consumer lending company Springleaf Holdings, Inc. (Springleaf) has once again turned to [Hughes Network Systems](#), LLC (Hughes), the world's leading provider of broadband satellite solutions and a major provider of managed network services, to meet its need for reliable, high-speed connectivity across its nationwide branch network and centralized operations.



Headquartered in Evansville, Indiana, Springleaf has relied on a Hughes satellite network since 1995 for branch office connectivity. As applications became more complex and Internet usage skyrocketed, the company turned to Hughes to upgrade its network through a HughesON™ managed network solution to increase capacity and support new applications for its 840 branch offices across 25 states.

HughesON is a comprehensive suite of innovative, cloud-friendly network and digital media solutions designed for the unique needs of distributed enterprises in industries such as banking, retail, hospitality and retail petroleum. The most cost-effective broadband access technology available is deployed on a site-by-site basis, whether it is DSL, cable, 3G/4G wireless, fiber or satellite. In Springleaf's case, numerous sites required cable buildouts, which Hughes managed effectively and without any delays. Overall, the HughesON network refresh was well received, as it enhances customer service, improves employee training and allows Springleaf to easily roll out new applications.

"Demand for faster connectivity in our branches just continues to grow," said Tom Peake, vice president of technology services at Springleaf. "We needed faster performance for credit checks, risk modeling, routing channel loan applications from the web to the appropriate local offices, and getting loans approved quickly for our customers."

"We are delighted that Springleaf has the confidence to extend our 20-year working relationship and to entrust their enhanced branch network to Hughes technology and operations," said Mike Cook, senior vice president, North America at Hughes. "The new Springleaf network demonstrates the robust capability of our HughesON solutions to deliver a high-performance and resilient network supporting all of the critical operations required by today's progressive distributed enterprises."

The Need for Increased Bandwidth

Springleaf needed from 10-to-20 Mbps bandwidth at each branch, but its existing network was not capable of those speeds everywhere. Springleaf chose to upgrade each office with a Hughes [HR4700 Branch Gateway](#). The HR4700, with built-in [ActiveTechnology](#)™ (Hughes performance optimization technology) increases throughput speeds and ensures quality of service for high-priority applications.

"We now get 10 Mbps at every site, so the optimization played a key role in closing the performance gap," said Peake.

Network Uptime is Key

Springleaf serves the majority of its customers from its local offices so branch uptime is critical. Springleaf chose to have dual-broadband access into each location to ensure stores stay online in the event of a primary network outage. Using the Hughes [High Availability Network](#) (HAN) service, each office has both a high-speed terrestrial connection (cable or DSL) and a diverse satellite backup connection. The satellite backup network also serves as a multicast file distribution channel for software updates and security patches during off hours.

"Outages can happen every day somewhere across our nationwide network," Peake said. "With satellite backup, customers can continue to make loan payments, submit applications, get fast loan approvals and complete other tasks during network outages."

To view a series of videos with Tom Peake and hear how Springleaf is using HughesON, go to: [Springleaf - Challenges Resolved](#).

About Springleaf Holdings, Inc.

Springleaf is a leading consumer finance company providing loan products to customers through its nationwide branch network and through its centralized operations. The company has a nearly 100-year track record of high quality origination, underwriting and servicing of personal loans, primarily to nonprime consumers. The company operates one of the largest consumer finance branch networks in the United States, serving its customers through nearly 830 branches in 26 states. For more information, visit www.springleaf.com/about-us.

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 4.8 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). 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](https://twitter.com/EchoStar) on Twitter.

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