

ECHOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION

\$1,000,000,000
4 7/8% CONVERTIBLE SUBORDINATED NOTES DUE 2007

This prospectus supplement relates to the offer and sale from time to time by certain selling securityholders of our 4 7/8% Convertible Subordinated Notes due 2007 and the shares of our class A common stock into which the convertible notes are convertible.

This prospectus supplement should be read in conjunction with the prospectus dated June 30, 2000, and supplement no. 1 to the prospectus dated July 14, 2000, supplement no. 2 to the prospectus dated August 8, 2000, supplement no. 3 to the prospectus dated October 27, 2000, supplement no. 4 to the prospectus dated March 23, 2001, supplement no. 5 to the prospectus dated May 9, 2001, and supplement no. 6 to the prospectus dated September 9, 2001 each of which is to be delivered with this prospectus supplement. The definitions for any capitalized terms used in this prospectus supplement are included in the prospectus.

SELLING SECURITYHOLDERS

The information in the table included under the heading "Selling Securityholders" in the prospectus is superceded in part by the information appearing in the following table:

PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF CONVERTIBLE SHARES OF CLASS A NOTES BENEFICIALLY COMMON STOCK SHARES OF CLASS A OWNED AND OFFERED OWNED PRIOR TO COMMON STOCK NAME HEREBY THE OFFERING OFFERED HEREBY (1)
Transamerica Life Canada IMS Asset Allocation Fund \$ 2,000,000 44,014 Other current and future holders of convertible notes (2) \$(224,724,000) (4,945,511)

(1) Assumes a conversion price of \$45.44 per share and the payment of cash in lieu of fractional shares.

(2) Information concerning other selling securityholders, including current holders of convertible notes for which we have not received current information regarding their holdings of convertible notes and class A common stock, or information reflecting transfers of their convertible notes and class A common stock to other selling securityholders, will be included in supplements to this prospectus, if required. For purposes of this table, we have assumed that such holders do not beneficially own any other shares of class A common stock, other than the shares issuable upon conversion of the convertible notes.

SEE "RISK FACTORS" BEGINNING ON PAGE 7 OF THE PROSPECTUS FOR CERTAIN RISKS YOU SHOULD CONSIDER BEFORE YOU PURCHASE ANY CONVERTIBLE NOTES OR SHARES OF CLASS A COMMON STOCK.

Neither the SEC nor any state securities commission has approved or determined whether the prospectus or this prospectus supplement is truthful or complete. Nor have they made, nor will they make, any determination as to whether anyone should buy these securities. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus supplement is October 24, 2001