
**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

Form 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 OR 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): November 8, 2005

ECHOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

NEVADA
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation)

0-26176
(Commission File Number)

88-0336997
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

9601 S. MERIDIAN BLVD.
ENGLEWOOD, COLORADO
(Address of principal executive offices)

80112
(Zip Code)

(303) 723-1000
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Item 5.02 Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Principal Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Principal Officers.

EchoStar Communications Corporation (the "Company") added Gary Howard as an independent member of the Company's Board of Directors effective November 8, 2005. Mr. Howard was appointed to the Board following the recommendation of the Company's Nominating Committee and will serve on the Nominating and Compensation Committees of the Board.

Mr. Howard served as Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Liberty Media Corporation from July 1998 to February 2004 as well serving on Liberty Media Corporation's Board of Directors from July 1998 until January 2005. Additionally, Mr. Howard held several executive officer positions with companies affiliated with Liberty Media Corporation.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(a) *Financial Statements of Businesses Acquired.*

Not applicable.

(b) *Pro Forma Financial Information.*

Not applicable.

(c) *Exhibits.*

Exhibit 99.1 Press Release "EchoStar Names New Board Member."

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

ECHOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION

Date: November 14, 2005

By: /s/ David K. Moskowitz
David K. Moskowitz
Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary

EXHIBIT INDEX

<u>No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
Exhibit 99.1	Press Release "EchoStar Names New Board Member."

EchoStar Names New Board Member

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. (Nov. 14, 2005) — EchoStar Communications Corporation (Nasdaq: DISH) today announced that Gary Howard joined its board of directors effective Nov. 8. Mr. Howard will also serve on the Nominating and Compensation Committees of EchoStar's board. The appointment of Howard increases the size of EchoStar's board to 10 members.

Howard served as executive vice president and chief operating officer of Liberty Media Corporation from July 1998 to February 2004 as well as serving on Liberty Media Corporation's board of directors from July 1998 to January 2005. Additionally, Howard held several executive officer positions with companies affiliated with Liberty Media Corporation.

"We welcome Gary to our board and we look forward to working with him," said Charles Ergen, CEO and chairman of EchoStar. "Gary will be a valuable contributor because of his knowledge of the industry and past board experience."

About EchoStar

EchoStar Communications Corporation (NASDAQ: DISH) serves more than 11.71 million satellite TV customers through its DISH Network™, the fastest growing U.S. provider of advanced digital television services in the last five years. DISH Network offers hundreds of video and audio channels, Interactive TV, HDTV, sports and international programming, together with professional installation and 24-hour customer service. Visit EchoStar's DISH Network at www.dishnetwork.com or call 1-800-333-DISH (3474).

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