

EHOSTAR COMMUNICATIONS CORP

Form 4

April 03, 2003

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549  
 FORM 4

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  
 DeFranco, James  
 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  
 4/02/03
5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)
6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  
 (X) Director ( ) 10% Owner (X) Officer (give title below) ( ) Other  
 (specify below)  
 Executive Vice President
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) Amount	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Month
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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) Amount	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities Title and Number of Shares	8. Put or Call or Other Feature
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Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$28.88	3/31/03	A	20,000	A (1) 3/31/2013	Class A Common Stock	20,000
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Explanation of Responses:

(1) The shares underlying the option vest at the rate of 20% per year, commencing on March 31, 2004.

SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON

/s/ James DeFranco

DATE

4/2/03