

# DISH DBS CORP

## FORM 10-Q (Quarterly Report)

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

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**Form 10-Q**

(Mark One)

**QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 FOR THE QUARTERLY PERIOD ENDED MARCH 31, 2012.**

OR

**TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 FOR THE TRANSITION PERIOD FROM                      TO                      .**

Commission File Number: 333-31929

**DISH DBS Corporation**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Colorado**

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

**84-1328967**

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

**9601 South Meridian Boulevard**

**Englewood, Colorado**

(Address of principal executive offices)

**80112**

(Zip code)

**(303) 723-1000**

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

**Not Applicable**

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

Smaller reporting company

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes  No

As of May 4, 2012, the registrant's outstanding common stock consisted of 1,015 shares of common stock, \$0.01 par value.

The registrant meets the conditions set forth in General Instruction (H)(1)(a) and (b) of Form 10-Q and is therefore filing this Form 10-Q with the reduced disclosure format.

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\* This item has been omitted pursuant to the reduced disclosure format as set forth in General Instruction (H)(2) of Form 10-Q.

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## PART I — FINANCIAL INFORMATION

### DISCLOSURE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

We make “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 throughout this report. Whenever you read a statement that is not simply a statement of historical fact (such as when we describe what we “believe,” “intend,” “plan,” “estimate,” “expect” or “anticipate” will occur, and other similar statements), you must remember that our expectations may not be achieved, even though we believe they are reasonable. We do not guarantee that any future transactions or events described herein will happen as described or that they will happen at all. You should read this report completely and with the understanding that actual future results may be materially different from what we expect. Whether actual events or results will conform with our expectations and predictions is subject to a number of risks and uncertainties. The risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, the following:

#### **Competition and Economic Risks Affecting our Business**

- We face intense and increasing competition from satellite television providers, cable companies and telecommunications companies, especially as the pay-TV industry matures, which may require us to increase subscriber acquisition and retention spending or accept lower subscriber activations and higher subscriber churn.
- Competition from digital media companies that provide or facilitate the delivery of video content via the Internet may reduce our gross new subscriber activations and may cause our subscribers to purchase less services from us or to cancel our services altogether, resulting in less revenue to us.
- Economic weakness, including higher unemployment and reduced consumer spending, may adversely affect our ability to grow or maintain our business.
- Our competitors may be able to leverage their relationships with programmers to reduce their programming costs and offer exclusive content that will place them at a competitive advantage to us.
- We face increasing competition from other distributors of foreign language programming that may limit our ability to maintain our foreign language programming subscriber base.

#### **Operational and Service Delivery Risks Affecting our Business**

- If we do not continue improving our operational performance and customer satisfaction, our gross new subscriber activations may decrease and our subscriber churn may increase.
- If our gross new subscriber activations decrease, or if subscriber churn, subscriber acquisition costs or retention costs increase, our financial performance will be adversely affected.
- Programming expenses are increasing and could adversely affect our future financial condition and results of operations.
- We depend on others to provide the programming that we offer to our subscribers and, if we lose access to this programming, our gross new subscriber activations may decline and subscriber churn may increase.
- We may be required to make substantial additional investments to maintain competitive programming offerings.
- Any failure or inadequacy of our information technology infrastructure could harm our business.
- We rely on EchoStar Corporation and its subsidiaries, or EchoStar, to design, develop and manufacture all of our new set-top boxes and certain related components, and to provide transponder capacity, digital broadcast operations and other services to us. Our business would be adversely affected if EchoStar ceases to provide these products and services to us and we are unable to obtain suitable replacement products and services from third parties.

- We operate in an extremely competitive environment and our success may depend in part on our timely introduction and implementation of, and effective investment in, new competitive products and services, the failure of which could negatively impact our business.
- Technology in our industry changes rapidly and our inability to offer new subscribers and upgrade existing subscribers with more advanced equipment could cause our products and services to become obsolete.
- We rely on a single vendor or a limited number of vendors to provide certain key products or services to us such as information technology support, billing systems, and security access devices, and the inability of these key vendors to meet our needs could have a material adverse effect on our business.
- Our sole supplier of new set-top boxes, EchoStar, relies on a few suppliers and in some cases a single supplier, for many components of our new set-top boxes, and any reduction or interruption in supplies or significant increase in the price of supplies could have a negative impact on our business.
- Our programming signals are subject to theft, and we are vulnerable to other forms of fraud that could require us to make significant expenditures to remedy.
- We depend on third parties to solicit orders for DISH services that represent a significant percentage of our total gross new subscriber activations.
- Our local programming strategy faces uncertainty because we may not be able to obtain necessary retransmission consent agreements at acceptable rates from local network stations.
- We have limited owned and leased satellite capacity and failures or reduced capacity could adversely affect our business.
- Our owned and leased satellites are subject to construction, launch, operational and environmental risks that could limit our ability to utilize these satellites.
- We generally do not have commercial insurance coverage on the satellites we use and could face significant impairment charges if one of our satellites fails.
- We may have potential conflicts of interest with EchoStar due to DISH Network's common ownership and management.
- We rely on key personnel and the loss of their services may negatively affect our businesses.

### **Acquisition and Capital Structure Risks Affecting our Business**

- Our parent, DISH Network, made a substantial investment to acquire certain wireless spectrum licenses and other assets from DBSD North America and TerreStar. DISH Network will be required to make significant additional investments or partner with others to commercialize these assets.
- Our parent, DISH Network, made a substantial investment to acquire certain 700 MHz wireless spectrum licenses and will be required to make significant additional investments or partner with others to commercialize these licenses.
- We may pursue acquisitions and other strategic transactions to complement or expand our business that may not be successful and we may lose up to the entire value of our investment in these acquisitions and transactions.
- We may need additional capital, which may not be available on acceptable terms or at all, to continue investing in our business and to finance acquisitions and other strategic transactions.
- We have substantial debt outstanding and may incur additional debt.
- Our parent, DISH Network, is controlled by one principal stockholder who is also our Chairman.

### **Legal and Regulatory Risks Affecting our Business**

- If Voom prevails in its breach of contract suit against us, we could be required to pay substantial damages, which would have a material adverse affect on our financial position and results of operations.
- Our business depends on certain intellectual property rights and on not infringing the intellectual property rights of others.
- We are party to various lawsuits which, if adversely decided, could have a significant adverse impact on our business, particularly lawsuits regarding intellectual property.
- Increased distribution of video content via the Internet could expose us to regulatory risk.
- We depend on the Cable Act for access to programming from cable-affiliate programmers at non-discriminatory rates.
- The injunction against our retransmission of distant networks, which is currently waived, may be reinstated.
- We are subject to significant regulatory oversight, and changes in applicable regulatory requirements, including any adoption or modification of laws or regulations relating to the Internet, could adversely affect our business.
- Our business depends on Federal Communications Commission, or FCC, licenses that can expire or be revoked or modified and applications for FCC licenses that may not be granted.
- We are subject to digital high-definition (“HD”) “carry-one, carry-all” requirements that cause capacity constraints.
- There can be no assurance that there will not be deficiencies leading to material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting.
- We may face other risks described from time to time in periodic and current reports we file with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC.

All cautionary statements made herein should be read as being applicable to all forward-looking statements wherever they appear. Investors should consider the risks described herein and should not place undue reliance on any forward-looking statements. We assume no responsibility for updating forward-looking information contained or incorporated by reference herein or in other reports we file with the SEC.

In this report, the words “DDBS,” the “Company,” “we,” “our” and “us” refer to DISH DBS Corporation and its subsidiaries, unless the context otherwise requires. “DISH Network” refers to DISH Network Corporation, our parent company, and its subsidiaries, including us, unless the context otherwise requires. “EchoStar” refers to EchoStar Corporation and its subsidiaries, unless the context otherwise requires.

## Item 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**DISH DBS CORPORATION**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**  
(Dollars in thousands, except share amounts)  
(Unaudited)

	As of	
	March 31, 2012	December 31, 2011
<b>Assets</b>		
<i>Current Assets:</i>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 970,417	\$ 399,072
Marketable investment securities	616,398	668,263
Trade accounts receivable - other, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$11,253 and \$11,916, respectively	744,788	771,055
Trade accounts receivable - EchoStar, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of zero	18,889	16,296
Inventory	481,434	509,932
Deferred tax assets	78,532	78,532
Other current assets	133,531	117,792
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>3,043,989</b>	<b>2,560,942</b>
<i>Noncurrent Assets:</i>		
Restricted cash and marketable investment securities	120,670	119,644
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$2,893,380 and \$2,847,863, respectively	3,088,284	3,122,243
FCC authorizations	679,570	679,570
Other noncurrent assets, net	110,703	121,290
<b>Total noncurrent assets</b>	<b>3,999,227</b>	<b>4,042,747</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 7,043,216</b>	<b>\$ 6,603,689</b>
<b>Liabilities and Stockholder's Equity (Deficit)</b>		
<i>Current Liabilities:</i>		
Trade accounts payable - other	\$ 173,376	\$ 131,305
Trade accounts payable - EchoStar	263,730	222,917
Deferred revenue and other	812,598	809,559
Accrued programming	1,095,491	1,055,925
Litigation accrual	70,999	65,580
Other accrued expenses	544,071	534,832
Current portion of long-term debt and capital lease obligations (Note 7)	33,940	34,630
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>2,994,205</b>	<b>2,854,748</b>
<i>Long-Term Obligations, Net of Current Portion:</i>		
Long-term debt and capital lease obligations, net of current portion	7,450,747	7,458,134
Deferred tax liabilities	994,668	988,371
Long-term deferred revenue, distribution and carriage payments and other long-term liabilities	183,280	187,407
<b>Total long-term obligations, net of current portion</b>	<b>8,628,695</b>	<b>8,633,912</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>11,622,900</b>	<b>11,488,660</b>
Commitments and Contingencies (Note 8)		
<i>Stockholder's Equity (Deficit):</i>		
Common stock, \$.01 par value, 1,000,000 shares authorized, 1,015 shares issued and outstanding	—	—
Additional paid-in capital	1,230,743	1,207,681
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	3,285	(1,450)
Accumulated earnings (deficit)	(5,813,712)	(6,091,202)
<b>Total stockholder's equity (deficit)</b>	<b>(4,579,684)</b>	<b>(4,884,971)</b>
<b>Total liabilities and stockholder's equity (deficit)</b>	<b>\$ 7,043,216</b>	<b>\$ 6,603,689</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

**DISH DBS CORPORATION**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**  
**AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)**

(In thousands)  
(Unaudited)

	For the Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2012	2011
<b>Revenue:</b>		
Subscriber-related revenue	\$ 3,218,946	\$ 3,195,666
Equipment sales and other revenue	21,613	15,893
Equipment sales, services and other revenue - EchoStar	6,667	9,031
Total revenue	<u>3,247,226</u>	<u>3,220,590</u>
<b>Costs and Expenses</b> (exclusive of depreciation shown separately below - Note 5):		
Subscriber-related expenses	1,764,435	1,692,308
Satellite and transmission expenses:		
EchoStar	109,121	108,886
Other	10,574	10,078
Cost of sales - equipment, services and other	22,948	22,072
<i>Subscriber acquisition costs:</i>		
Cost of sales - subscriber promotion subsidies - EchoStar	82,274	54,426
Other subscriber promotion subsidies	226,389	226,822
Subscriber acquisition advertising	89,056	73,358
Total subscriber acquisition costs	397,719	354,606
General and administrative expenses - EchoStar	10,428	11,940
General and administrative expenses	160,736	147,860
Litigation expense (Note 8)	—	(340,677)
Depreciation and amortization (Note 5)	197,295	228,126
Total costs and expenses	<u>2,673,256</u>	<u>2,235,199</u>
Operating income (loss)	<u>573,970</u>	<u>985,391</u>
<b>Other Income (Expense):</b>		
Interest income	1,692	3,640
Interest expense, net of amounts capitalized	(134,286)	(119,973)
Other, net	2,705	12,568
Total other income (expense)	<u>(129,889)</u>	<u>(103,765)</u>
Income (loss) before income taxes	444,081	881,626
Income tax (provision) benefit, net	(166,591)	(332,751)
Net income (loss)	<u>\$ 277,490</u>	<u>\$ 548,875</u>
<b>Comprehensive Income (Loss):</b>		
Net income (loss)	\$ 277,490	\$ 548,875
Unrealized holding gains (losses) on available-for-sale securities, net of tax of zero, respectively	4,735	2,399
Comprehensive income (loss)	<u>\$ 282,225</u>	<u>\$ 551,274</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

**DISH DBS CORPORATION**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

(In thousands)  
(Unaudited)

	For the Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2012	2011
<b>Cash Flows From Operating Activities:</b>		
Net income (loss)	\$ 277,490	\$ 548,875
<i>Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash flows from operating activities:</i>		
Depreciation and amortization	197,295	228,126
Realized and unrealized losses (gains) on investments	(2,619)	(12,454)
Non-cash, stock-based compensation	22,087	15,177
Deferred tax expense (benefit)	5,536	218,076
Other, net	1,936	1,429
Change in noncurrent assets	11,230	(4,180)
Change in long-term deferred revenue, distribution and carriage payments and other long-term liabilities	(4,127)	(8,926)
Changes in current assets and current liabilities, net	181,029	(243,560)
<b>Net cash flows from operating activities</b>	<b>689,857</b>	<b>742,563</b>
<b>Cash Flows From Investing Activities:</b>		
Purchases of marketable investment securities	(155,734)	(1,000,772)
Sales and maturities of marketable investment securities	212,334	905,231
Purchases of property and equipment	(167,054)	(232,903)
Change in restricted cash and marketable investment securities	(1,026)	(42,000)
Proceeds from sale of strategic investments	—	10,000
<b>Net cash flows from investing activities</b>	<b>(111,480)</b>	<b>(360,444)</b>
<b>Cash Flows From Financing Activities:</b>		
Repayment of long-term debt and capital lease obligations	(8,077)	(8,498)
Other	1,045	—
<b>Net cash flows from financing activities</b>	<b>(7,032)</b>	<b>(8,498)</b>
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	571,345	373,621
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	399,072	507,266
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	<u>\$ 970,417</u>	<u>\$ 880,887</u>
<b>Supplemental Disclosure of Cash Flow Information:</b>		
Cash paid for interest (including capitalized interest)	<u>\$ 114,226</u>	<u>\$ 114,752</u>
Cash received for interest	<u>\$ 1,692</u>	<u>\$ 3,399</u>
Cash paid for income taxes	<u>\$ 4,321</u>	<u>\$ 1,971</u>
Cash paid for income taxes to DISH Network	<u>\$ 161,055</u>	<u>\$ 99,274</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

**DISH DBS CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
(Unaudited)

**1. Organization and Business Activities**

*Principal Business*

DISH DBS Corporation (which together with its subsidiaries is referred to as “DDBS,” the “Company,” “we,” “us” and/or “our”) is a holding company and an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of DISH Network Corporation (“DISH Network”). DDBS was formed under Colorado law in January 1996 and its common stock is held by DISH Orbital Corporation (“DOC”), a direct subsidiary of DISH Network. We operate the DISH® branded direct broadcast satellite (“DBS”) pay-TV service which had 14.071 million subscribers in the United States as of March 31, 2012. The DISH branded pay-TV service consists of Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) licenses authorizing us to use DBS and Fixed Satellite Service (“FSS”) spectrum, our owned and leased satellites, receiver systems, third-party broadcast operations, customer service facilities, a third-party leased fiber network, in-home service and call center operations, and certain other assets utilized in our operations.

**2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

*Basis of Presentation*

The accompanying unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (“GAAP”) and with the instructions to Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X for interim financial information. Accordingly, these statements do not include all of the information and notes required for complete financial statements prepared under GAAP. In our opinion, all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring adjustments) considered necessary for a fair presentation have been included. Our results of operations for the interim periods presented are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the full year. For further information, refer to the Consolidated Financial Statements and notes thereto included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011 (“2011 10-K”). Certain prior period amounts have been reclassified to conform to the current period presentation.

*Principles of Consolidation*

We consolidate all majority owned subsidiaries, investments in entities in which we have controlling influence and variable interest entities where we have been determined to be the primary beneficiary. Non-majority owned investments are accounted for using the equity method when we have the ability to significantly influence the operating decisions of the investee. When we do not have the ability to significantly influence the operating decisions of an investee, the cost method is used. All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

*Use of Estimates*

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires us to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expense for each reporting period. Estimates are used in accounting for, among other things, allowances for doubtful accounts, self-insurance obligations, deferred taxes and related valuation allowances, uncertain tax positions, loss contingencies, fair value of financial instruments, fair value of options granted under our stock-based compensation plans, fair value of assets and liabilities acquired in business combinations, capital leases, asset impairments, estimates of future cash flows used to evaluate impairments, useful lives of property, equipment and intangible assets, retailer incentives, programming expenses, subscriber lives and royalty obligations. Weak economic conditions have increased the inherent uncertainty in the estimates and assumptions indicated above. Actual results may differ from previously estimated amounts, and such differences may be material to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements. Estimates and assumptions are reviewed periodically, and the effects of revisions are reflected prospectively in the period they occur.

**DISH DBS CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — Continued**  
(Unaudited)

**Fair Value Measurements**

We determine fair value based on the exchange price that would be received for an asset or paid to transfer a liability (an exit price) in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants. Market or observable inputs are the preferred source of values, followed by unobservable inputs or assumptions based on hypothetical transactions in the absence of market inputs. We apply the following hierarchy in determining fair value:

- Level 1, defined as observable inputs being quoted prices in active markets for identical assets;
- Level 2, defined as observable inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1, including quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets; quoted prices for identical or similar instruments in markets that are not active; and model-derived valuations in which significant inputs and significant value drivers are observable in active markets; and
- Level 3, defined as unobservable inputs for which little or no market data exists, consistent with reasonably available assumptions made by other participants therefore requiring assumptions based on the best information available.

As of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, the carrying value for cash and cash equivalents, marketable investment securities, trade accounts receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts, and current liabilities, excluding the “Current portion of long-term debt and capital lease obligations,” is equal to or approximates fair value due to their short-term nature or proximity to current market rates. See Note 3.

Fair values for our publicly traded debt securities are based on quoted market prices. The fair values of our private debt is estimated based on an analysis in which we evaluate market conditions, related securities, various public and private offerings, and other publicly available information. In performing this analysis, we make various assumptions regarding, among other things, credit spreads, and the impact of these factors on the value of the notes. See Note 6 for the fair value of our long-term debt.

**3. Marketable Investment Securities and Restricted Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Our marketable investment securities and restricted cash and cash equivalents consist of the following:

	As of	
	March 31, 2012	December 31, 2011
	(In thousands)	
<b>Marketable investment securities:</b>		
Current marketable investment securities - VRDNs	\$ 129,188	\$ 100,075
Current marketable investment securities - other	487,210	568,188
<i>Total current marketable investment securities</i>	616,398	668,263
Restricted marketable investment securities (1)	65,685	54,507
<b>Total marketable investment securities</b>	<b>682,083</b>	<b>722,770</b>
<b>Restricted cash and cash equivalents (1)</b>	<b>54,985</b>	<b>65,137</b>
<b>Total marketable investment securities and restricted cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>\$ 737,068</b>	<b>\$ 787,907</b>

- (1) Restricted marketable investment securities and restricted cash and cash equivalents are included in “Restricted cash and marketable investment securities” on our Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets.

**DISH DBS CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — Continued**  
(Unaudited)

**Marketable Investment Securities**

Our marketable investment securities portfolio consists of various debt and equity instruments, all of which are classified as available-for-sale.

*Current Marketable Investment Securities — VRDNs*

Variable rate demand notes (“VRDNs”) are long-term floating rate municipal bonds with embedded put options that allow the bondholder to sell the security at par plus accrued interest. All of the put options are secured by a pledged liquidity source. Our VRDN portfolio is comprised of investments in many municipalities, which are backed by financial institutions or other highly rated companies that serve as the pledged liquidity source. While they are classified as marketable investment securities, the put option allows VRDNs to be liquidated generally on a same day or on a five business day settlement basis.

*Current Marketable Investment Securities — Other*

Our current marketable investment securities portfolio includes investments in various debt instruments including corporate and government bonds.

*Restricted Cash and Marketable Investment Securities*

As of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, our restricted marketable investment securities, together with our restricted cash, included amounts required as collateral for our letters of credit or surety bonds and for litigation (See Note 8).

**Unrealized Gains (Losses) on Marketable Investment Securities**

As of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011, we had accumulated net unrealized gains of \$3 million and net unrealized losses of \$1 million, both net of related tax effect, respectively, as a part of “Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)” within “Total stockholder’s equity (deficit).” A full valuation allowance has been established against any deferred taxes that are capital in nature. The components of our available-for-sale investments are summarized in the table below.

	As of March 31, 2012				As of December 31, 2011			
	Marketable Investment Securities	Gains	Unrealized Losses	Net	Marketable Investment Securities	Gains	Unrealized Losses	Net
	(In thousands)							
<b>Debt securities:</b>								
VRDNs	\$ 129,188	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 100,075	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —
Other (including restricted)	552,895	4,163	(878)	3,285	622,695	2,625	(4,075)	(1,450)
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$ 682,083</u>	<u>\$ 4,163</u>	<u>\$ (878)</u>	<u>\$ 3,285</u>	<u>\$ 722,770</u>	<u>\$ 2,625</u>	<u>\$ (4,075)</u>	<u>\$ (1,450)</u>

As of March 31, 2012, restricted and non-restricted marketable investment securities include debt securities of \$628 million with contractual maturities of one year or less and \$54 million with contractual maturities greater than one year. Actual maturities may differ from contractual maturities as a result of our ability to sell these securities prior to maturity.

**Marketable Investment Securities in a Loss Position**

The following table reflects the length of time that the individual securities, accounted for as available-for-sale, have been in an unrealized loss position, aggregated by investment category. As of March 31, 2012 and December 31,

**DISH DBS CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — Continued**  
(Unaudited)

2011, the unrealized losses on our investments in debt securities primarily represent investments in corporate bonds and mortgage backed securities. We do not intend to sell our investments in these debt securities before they recover or mature, and it is more likely than not that we will hold these investments until that time. In addition, we are not aware of any specific factors indicating that the underlying issuers of these debt securities would not be able to pay interest as it becomes due or repay the principal at maturity. Therefore, we believe that these changes in the estimated fair values of these marketable investment securities are related to temporary market fluctuations.

	As of			
	March 31, 2012		December 31, 2011	
	Fair Value	Unrealized Loss	Fair Value	Unrealized Loss
	(In thousands)			
<b>Debt Securities:</b>				
Less than 12 months	\$ 314,649	\$ (561)	\$ 444,705	\$ (2,970)
12 months or more	10,416	(317)	33,039	(1,105)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 325,065</b>	<b>\$ (878)</b>	<b>\$ 477,744</b>	<b>\$ (4,075)</b>

#### *Fair Value Measurements*

Our investments measured at fair value on a recurring basis were as follows:

	As of							
	March 31, 2012				December 31, 2011			
	Total	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
	(In thousands)							
<b>Cash Equivalents (including restricted)</b>	<b>\$ 680,623</b>	<b>\$ 27,073</b>	<b>\$ 653,550</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 162,549</b>	<b>\$ 18,610</b>	<b>\$ 143,939</b>	<b>\$ —</b>
<b>Debt securities:</b>								
VRDNs	\$ 129,188	\$ —	\$ 129,188	\$ —	\$ 100,075	\$ —	\$ 100,075	\$ —
Other (including restricted)	552,895	—	552,895	—	622,695	—	622,695	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 682,083</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 682,083</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 722,770</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 722,770</b>	<b>\$ —</b>

#### **4. Inventory**

Inventory consists of the following:

	As of	
	March 31, 2012	December 31, 2011
	(In thousands)	
Finished goods - DBS	\$ 298,624	\$ 294,722
Raw materials	141,391	183,675
Work-in-process - used	38,160	29,228
Work-in-process - new	3,259	2,307
<b>Total inventory</b>	<b>\$ 481,434</b>	<b>\$ 509,932</b>

**DISH DBS CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — Continued**  
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## 5. Property and Equipment

### *Depreciation and Amortization Expense*

Depreciation and amortization expense consists of the following:

	For the Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2012	2011
	(In thousands)	
Equipment leased to customers	\$ 152,443	\$ 182,987
Satellites	32,087	32,091
Buildings, furniture, fixtures, equipment and other	12,765	13,048
Total depreciation and amortization	\$ 197,295	\$ 228,126

Cost of sales and operating expense categories included in our accompanying Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) do not include depreciation expense related to satellites or equipment leased to customers.

### *DBS Satellites*

We currently utilize 13 DBS satellites in geostationary orbit approximately 22,300 miles above the equator, six of which we own and depreciate over the useful life of each satellite. We currently utilize capacity on five DBS satellites from EchoStar, which are accounted for as operating leases. See Note 10 for further discussion of our satellite leases with EchoStar. We also lease two DBS satellites from third parties, which are accounted for as capital leases and are depreciated over the shorter of the economic life or the term of the satellite agreement.

### *Satellite Anomalies*

Operation of our pay-TV service requires that we have adequate DBS satellite transmission capacity for the programming we offer. Moreover, current competitive conditions require that we continue to expand our offering of new programming, particularly by expanding local high definition (“HD”) coverage and offering more HD national channels. While we generally have had in-orbit DBS satellite capacity sufficient to transmit our existing channels and some backup capacity to recover the transmission of certain critical programming, our backup capacity is limited.

In the event of a failure or loss of any of our satellites, we may need to acquire or lease additional satellite capacity or relocate one of our other satellites and use it as a replacement for the failed or lost satellite. Such a failure could result in a prolonged loss of critical programming or a significant delay in our plans to expand programming as necessary to remain competitive and thus may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Prior to 2012, certain of our satellites have experienced anomalies, some of which have had a significant adverse impact on their remaining useful life and/or commercial operation. There can be no assurance that future anomalies will not further impact the remaining useful life and/or commercial operation of any of the satellites in our fleet. See “*Long-Lived DBS Satellite Assets*” below for further discussion of evaluation of impairment. There can be no assurance that we can recover critical transmission capacity in the event one or more of our in-orbit satellites were to fail. We do not anticipate carrying insurance for any of the in-orbit satellites that we use, and we will bear the risk associated with any in-orbit satellite failures. Recent developments with respect to certain of our satellites are discussed below.

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*Owned Satellites*

*EchoStar I.* EchoStar I was designed to meet a minimum 12 year useful life. During first quarter 2012, we determined that EchoStar I experienced a communications receiver anomaly. While this anomaly did not impact commercial operation of the satellite, there can be no assurance that future anomalies will not impact its future commercial operation. EchoStar I was fully depreciated during 2007.

*EchoStar XI.* EchoStar XI was designed to meet a minimum 12-year useful life. During first quarter 2012, we determined that EchoStar XI experienced solar array anomalies that reduced the total power available for use by the spacecraft. While these anomalies did not reduce the estimated useful life of the satellite to less than 12 years or impact commercial operation of the satellite, there can be no assurance that future anomalies will not reduce its useful life or impact its commercial operation.

*EchoStar XIV.* EchoStar XIV was designed to meet a minimum 15-year useful life. During third quarter 2011 and first quarter 2012, we determined that EchoStar XIV experienced solar array anomalies that reduced the total power available for use by the spacecraft. While these anomalies did not reduce the estimated useful life of the satellite to less than 15 years or impact commercial operation of the satellite, there can be no assurance that future anomalies will not reduce its useful life or impact its commercial operation.

*Leased Satellites*

*EchoStar VI.* Prior to 2012, EchoStar VI experienced solar array anomalies which impacted the commercial operation of the satellite. EchoStar VI also previously experienced the loss of traveling wave tube amplifiers (“TWTAs”). During first quarter 2012, EchoStar determined that EchoStar VI experienced the loss of two additional TWTAs increasing the total number of TWTAs lost to five. While the recent loss of TWTAs did not impact commercial operation of the satellite, there can be no assurance that future anomalies will not impact its commercial operation.

***Long-Lived DBS Satellite Assets.*** We evaluate our DISH branded pay-TV DBS satellite fleet for impairment as one asset group and test for recoverability whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that its carrying amount may not be recoverable. While certain of the anomalies discussed above, and previously disclosed, may be considered to represent a significant adverse change in the physical condition of an individual satellite, based on the redundancy designed within each satellite and considering the asset grouping, these anomalies are not considered to be significant events that would require evaluation for impairment recognition. Unless and until a specific satellite is abandoned or otherwise determined to have no service potential, the net carrying amount related to the satellite would not be written off.

***FCC Authorizations***

We currently do not have any satellites positioned at the 148 degree orbital location as a result of the retirement of EchoStar V. While we have requested the necessary approval from the FCC for the continued use of this orbital location, there can be no assurance that the FCC will determine that our proposed future use of this orbital location complies fully with all licensing requirements. If the FCC decides to revoke this license, we may be required to write-off its \$68 million carrying value. We cannot predict the outcome or the timing of the FCC’s decision and any associated write-off as a result of the FCC’s decision.

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**6. Long-Term Debt***Fair Value of our Long-Term Debt*

The following table summarizes the carrying and fair values of our debt facilities:

	As of			
	March 31, 2012		December 31, 2011	
	Carrying Value	Fair Value	Carrying Value	Fair Value
	(In thousands)			
7 % Senior Notes due 2013	\$ 500,000	\$ 535,625	\$ 500,000	\$ 535,000
6 5/8% Senior Notes due 2014	1,000,000	1,090,000	1,000,000	1,060,000
7 3/4% Senior Notes due 2015	750,000	851,970	750,000	817,500
7 1/8% Senior Notes due 2016	1,500,000	1,662,750	1,500,000	1,593,750
7 7/8% Senior Notes due 2019	1,400,000	1,610,000	1,400,000	1,589,000
6 3/4% Senior Notes due 2021	2,000,000	2,005,000	2,000,000	2,140,000
Mortgages and other notes payable	71,535	71,535	71,871	71,871
Subtotal	7,221,535	<u>\$ 7,826,880</u>	7,221,871	<u>\$ 7,807,121</u>
Capital lease obligations (1)	263,152	NA	270,893	NA
Total long-term debt and capital lease obligations (including current portion)	<u>\$ 7,484,687</u>		<u>\$ 7,492,764</u>	

(1) Disclosure regarding fair value of capital leases is not required.

We estimated the fair value of our publicly traded long-term debt using market prices in less active markets (Level 2).

**7. Stock-Based Compensation***Stock Incentive Plans*

DISH Network maintains stock incentive plans to attract and retain officers, directors and key employees. Our employees participate in the DISH Network stock incentive plans. Stock awards under these plans include both performance and non-performance-based stock incentives. As of March 31, 2012, there were outstanding under these plans stock options to acquire 17.8 million shares of DISH Network's Class A common stock and 1.2 million restricted stock units associated with our employees. Stock options granted prior to and on March 31, 2012 were granted with exercise prices equal to or greater than the market value of DISH Network Class A common stock at the date of grant and with a maximum term of approximately ten years. While historically DISH Network has issued stock awards subject to vesting, typically at the rate of 20% per year, some stock awards have been granted with immediate vesting and other stock awards vest only upon the achievement of certain DISH Network-specific objectives. As of March 31, 2012, DISH Network had 72.6 million shares of its Class A common stock available for future grant under its stock incentive plans.

During December 2011, DISH Network paid a dividend in cash of \$2.00 per share on its outstanding Class A and Class B common stock to shareholders of record on November 17, 2011. In light of such dividend, during January 2012, the exercise price of 17.3 million stock options, affecting approximately 400 of our employees, was reduced by \$2.00 per share (the "2012 Stock Option Adjustment"). Except as noted below, all information discussed below reflects the 2012 Stock Option Adjustment.

On January 1, 2008, DISH Network completed the distribution of its technology and set-top box business and certain infrastructure assets (the "Spin-off") into a separate publicly-traded company, EchoStar. DISH Network and

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EchoStar operate as separate publicly-traded companies, and neither entity has any ownership interest in the other. However, a substantial majority of the voting power of the shares of both companies is owned beneficially by Charles W. Ergen, our Chairman, or by certain trusts established by Mr. Ergen for the benefit of his family.

In connection with the Spin-off, as permitted by existing stock incentive plans and consistent with the Spin-off exchange ratio, each DISH Network stock option was converted into two stock options as follows:

- an adjusted DISH Network stock option for the same number of shares that were exercisable under the original DISH Network stock option, with an exercise price equal to the exercise price of the original DISH Network stock option multiplied by 0.831219.
- a new EchoStar stock option for one-fifth of the number of shares that were exercisable under the original DISH Network stock option, with an exercise price equal to the exercise price of the original DISH Network stock option multiplied by 0.843907.

Similarly, each holder of DISH Network restricted stock units retained his or her DISH Network restricted stock units and received one EchoStar restricted stock unit for every five DISH Network restricted stock units that they held.

Consequently, the fair value of the DISH Network stock award and the new EchoStar stock award immediately following the Spin-off was equivalent to the fair value of such stock award immediately prior to the Spin-off.

The following stock awards were outstanding:

<u>Stock Awards Outstanding</u>	As of March 31, 2012			
	DISH Network Awards		EchoStar Awards	
	Stock Options	Restricted Stock Units	Stock Options	Restricted Stock Units
Held by DDBS employees	17,772,264	1,176,376	729,981	51,620

DISH Network is responsible for fulfilling all stock awards related to DISH Network common stock and EchoStar is responsible for fulfilling all stock awards related to EchoStar common stock, regardless of whether such stock awards are held by our or EchoStar’s employees. Notwithstanding the foregoing, our stock-based compensation expense, resulting from stock awards outstanding at the Spin-off date, is based on the stock awards held by our employees regardless of whether such stock awards were issued by DISH Network or EchoStar. Accordingly, stock-based compensation that we expense with respect to EchoStar stock awards is included in “Additional paid-in capital” on our Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets.

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**Stock Award Activity**

DISH Network stock option activity associated with our employees was as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2012	
	Options	Weighted- Average Exercise Price
Total options outstanding, beginning of period (1)	17,640,074	\$ 20.38
Granted	411,000	\$ 32.93
Exercised	(246,010)	\$ 11.41
Forfeited and cancelled	(32,800)	\$ 20.36
Total options outstanding, end of period	<u>17,772,264</u>	<u>\$ 18.84</u>
Performance-based options outstanding, end of period (2)	<u>8,092,675</u>	<u>\$ 16.96</u>
Exercisable at end of period	<u>6,613,788</u>	<u>\$ 20.08</u>

- (1) The beginning of period weighted-average exercise price of \$20.38 does not reflect the 2012 Stock Option Adjustment, which occurred subsequent to December 31, 2011.
- (2) These stock options are included in the caption “Total options outstanding, end of period.” See discussion of the 2005 LTIP, 2008 LTIP and other employee performance awards below.

We realized tax benefits from stock awards exercised as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2012	2011
	(In thousands)	
Tax benefit from stock awards exercised	<u>\$ 1,743</u>	<u>\$ 795</u>

Based on the closing market price of DISH Network Class A common stock on March 31, 2012, the aggregate intrinsic value of stock options associated with our employees was as follows:

	As of March 31, 2012	
	Options Outstanding	Options Exercisable
	(In thousands)	
Aggregate intrinsic value	<u>\$ 250,534</u>	<u>\$ 85,008</u>

**DISH DBS CORPORATION**  
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DISH Network restricted stock unit activity associated with our employees was as follows:

	For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2012	
	Restricted Stock Units	Weighted- Average Grant Date Fair Value
Total restricted stock units outstanding, beginning of period	1,179,709	\$ 23.11
Granted	—	\$ —
Vested	—	\$ —
Forfeited and cancelled	(3,333)	\$ 25.07
Total restricted stock units outstanding, end of period	<u>1,176,376</u>	<u>\$ 23.11</u>
Restricted Performance Units outstanding, end of period (1)	<u>1,176,376</u>	<u>\$ 23.11</u>

- (1) These Restricted Performance Units are included in the caption “Total restricted stock units outstanding, end of period.” See discussion of the 2005 LTIP, 2008 LTIP and other employee performance awards below.

***Long-Term Performance-Based Plans***

**2005 LTIP.** During 2005, DISH Network adopted a long-term, performance-based stock incentive plan (the “2005 LTIP”). The 2005 LTIP provides stock options and restricted stock units, either alone or in combination, which vest over seven years at the rate of 10% per year during the first four years, and at the rate of 20% per year thereafter. Exercise of the stock awards is subject to the foregoing vesting schedule and a performance condition that a DISH Network-specific subscriber goal is achieved by March 31, 2015.

Contingent compensation related to the 2005 LTIP will not be recorded in our financial statements unless and until management concludes achievement of the performance condition is probable. Given the competitive nature of DISH Network’s business, small variations in subscriber churn, gross new subscriber activation rates and certain other factors can significantly impact subscriber growth. Consequently, while it was determined that achievement of the goal was not probable as of March 31, 2012, that assessment could change in the future.

If all of the stock awards under the 2005 LTIP were vested and the goal had been met or if management had determined that achievement of the goal was probable during the three months ended March 31, 2012, we would have recorded total non-cash, stock-based compensation expense for our employees as indicated in the table below. If the goal is met and there are unvested stock awards at that time, the vested amounts would be expensed immediately on our Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss), with the unvested portion recognized ratably over the remaining vesting period.

	2005 LTIP	
	Total	Vested Portion (1)
	(In thousands)	
DISH Network awards held by DDBS employees	\$ 32,020	\$ 24,735
EchoStar awards held by DDBS employees	279	230
Total	<u>\$ 32,299</u>	<u>\$ 24,965</u>

- (1) Represents the amount of this award that has met the foregoing vesting schedule and would therefore vest upon achievement of the performance condition.

**DISH DBS CORPORATION**  
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**2008 LTIP.** During 2008, DISH Network adopted a long-term, performance-based stock incentive plan (the “2008 LTIP”). The 2008 LTIP provides stock options and restricted stock units, either alone or in combination, which vest based on DISH Network-specific subscriber and financial goals. Exercise of the stock awards is contingent on achieving these goals by December 31, 2015.

Although no awards vest until DISH Network attains the performance goals, compensation related to the 2008 LTIP will be recorded based on management’s assessment of the probability of meeting the remaining goals. If the remaining goals are probable of being achieved, we will begin recognizing the associated non-cash, stock-based compensation expense on our Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) over the estimated period to achieve the goal. See table below titled “Estimated Remaining Non-Cash, Stock-Based Compensation Expense.”

During the first quarter 2011, DISH Network determined that all of the 2008 LTIP performance goals are probable of achievement. As of March 31, 2012, approximately 45% of the 2008 LTIP awards had vested. We are recognizing the associated non-cash stock-based compensation expense on our Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) over the estimated period for vesting of the approximately 55% of the awards remaining, as indicated in the table below titled “Non-Cash, Stock-Based Compensation Expense Recognized.”

**Other Employee Performance Awards.** In addition to the above long-term, performance stock incentive plans, DISH Network has other stock awards that vest based on certain other DISH Network-specific subscriber and financial goals. Exercise of these stock awards is contingent on achieving certain performance goals.

Additional compensation related to these awards will be recorded based on management’s assessment of the probability of meeting the remaining performance goals. If the remaining goals are probable of being achieved, we will begin recognizing the associated non-cash, stock-based compensation expense on our Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) over the estimated period to achieve the goal. See table below titled “Estimated Remaining Non-Cash, Stock-Based Compensation Expense.”

Although no awards vest until the performance goals are attained, DISH Network determined that certain goals were probable of achievement and, as a result, recorded non-cash, stock-based compensation expense for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, as indicated in the table below titled “Non-Cash, Stock-Based Compensation Expense Recognized.”

Given the competitive nature of DISH Network’s business, small variations in subscriber churn, gross new subscriber activation rates and certain other factors can significantly impact subscriber growth. Consequently, while it was determined that achievement of certain DISH Network-specific subscriber and financial goals was not probable as of March 31, 2012, that assessment could change in the future.

The non-cash stock-based compensation expense associated with these awards is as follows:

<u>Non-Cash, Stock-Based Compensation Expense Recognized</u>	<u>For the Three Months Ended March 31,</u>	
	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>
	(In thousands)	
2008 LTIP	\$ 5,496	\$ 12,804
Other employee performance awards	3,139	75
Total non-cash, stock-based compensation expense recognized for performance based awards	<u>\$ 8,635</u>	<u>\$ 12,879</u>

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<u>Estimated Remaining Non-Cash, Stock-Based Compensation Expense</u>	<u>2008 LTIP</u>	<u>Other Employee Performance Awards</u>
	(In thousands)	
Remaining expense estimated to be recognized during 2012	\$ 3,304	\$ 3,139
Estimated contingent expense subsequent to 2012	3,445	47,594
Total estimated remaining expense over the term of the plan	<u>\$ 6,749</u>	<u>\$ 50,733</u>

Of the 17.8 million stock options and 1.2 million restricted stock units outstanding under the DISH Network stock incentive plans associated with our employees as of March 31, 2012, the following awards were outstanding pursuant to the performance-based stock incentive plans:

	<u>As of March 31, 2012</u>	
	<u>Number of Awards</u>	<u>Weighted- Average Exercise Price</u>
<b><u>Performance-Based Stock Options</u></b>		
2005 LTIP	1,998,500	\$ 21.61
2008 LTIP	3,094,175	\$ 9.88
Other employee performance awards	3,000,000	\$ 21.16
Total	<u>8,092,675</u>	<u>\$ 16.96</u>
<b><u>Restricted Performance Units and Other</u></b>		
2005 LTIP	254,831	
2008 LTIP	21,545	
Other employee performance awards	900,000	
Total	<u>1,176,376</u>	

### ***Stock-Based Compensation***

During the three months ended March 31, 2012, we incurred \$13 million of additional non-cash, stock-based compensation expense in connection with the 2012 Stock Option Adjustment discussed previously. This amount is included in the table below. Total non-cash, stock-based compensation expense for all of our employees is shown in the following table and was allocated to the same expense categories as the base compensation for such employees:

	<u>For the Three Months Ended March 31,</u>	
	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>
	(In thousands)	
Subscriber-related	\$ 837	\$ 977
General and administrative	21,250	14,200
Total non-cash, stock-based compensation	<u>\$ 22,087</u>	<u>\$ 15,177</u>

As of March 31, 2012, our total unrecognized compensation cost related to the non-performance-based unvested stock awards was \$28 million and includes compensation expense that we will recognize for EchoStar stock awards held by our employees as a result of the Spin-off. This cost is based on an estimated future forfeiture rate of approximately 3.9% per year and will be recognized over a weighted-average period of approximately two years. Share-based compensation expense is recognized based on stock awards ultimately expected to vest and is reduced for estimated forfeitures. Forfeitures are estimated at the time of grant and revised, if necessary, in subsequent periods if actual forfeitures differ from those estimates. Changes in the estimated forfeiture rate can have a

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significant effect on share-based compensation expense since the effect of adjusting the rate is recognized in the period the forfeiture estimate is changed.

### **Valuation**

The fair value of each stock option for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011 was originally estimated at the date of the grant using a Black-Scholes option valuation model with the following assumptions:

<u>Stock Options</u>	<u>For the Three Months Ended March 31,</u>	
	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>
Risk-free interest rate	0.51% - 1.29%	2.24% - 2.68%
Volatility factor	38.80% - 39.34%	35.82% - 39.59%
Expected term of options in years	3.4 - 5.9	4.9 - 6.3
Weighted-average fair value of options granted	\$9.49 - \$12.69	\$9.16 - \$9.81

On December 1, 2011, DISH Network paid a \$2.00 cash dividend per share on its outstanding Class A and Class B common stock. While DISH Network currently does not intend to declare additional dividends on its common stock, it may elect to do so from time to time. Accordingly, the dividend yield percentage used in the Black-Scholes option valuation model is set at zero for all periods. The Black-Scholes option valuation model was developed for use in estimating the fair value of traded stock options which have no vesting restrictions and are fully transferable. Consequently, our estimate of fair value may differ from other valuation models. Further, the Black-Scholes option valuation model requires the input of highly subjective assumptions. Changes in the subjective input assumptions can materially affect the fair value estimate.

We will continue to evaluate the assumptions used to derive the estimated fair value of DISH Network's stock options as new events or changes in circumstances become known.

## **8. Commitments and Contingencies**

### **Commitments**

#### *Wireless Spectrum*

In 2008, DISH Network paid \$712 million to acquire certain 700 MHz wireless spectrum licenses, which were granted to DISH Network by the FCC in February 2009 subject to certain build-out requirements. To commercialize these licenses and satisfy the associated FCC build-out requirements, DISH Network will be required to make significant additional investments or partner with others. We may make cash distributions to DISH Network to, among other things, finance the commercialization and build-out requirements of these licenses and DISH Network's integration efforts including compliance with regulations applicable to these licenses. Depending on the nature and scope of such commercialization and build-out, any such investment or partnership could vary significantly, which may affect our future financial condition or results of operations. Part or all of these licenses may be terminated if the associated FCC build-out requirements are not satisfied. There can be no assurance that DISH Network will be able to develop and implement a business model that will realize a return on these investments and profitably deploy the spectrum represented by the 700 MHz licenses.

On March 2, 2012, the FCC approved the transfer of 40 MHz of 2 GHz wireless spectrum licenses held by DBSD North America, Inc. ("DBSD North America") and TerreStar Networks, Inc. ("TerreStar") to DISH Network. On March 9, 2012, DISH Network closed the acquisitions of 100% of the equity of reorganized DBSD North America (the "DBSD Transaction") and substantially all of the assets of TerreStar (the "TerreStar Transaction"), pursuant to which DISH Network acquired, among other things, certain satellite assets and wireless spectrum licenses held by DBSD North America and TerreStar. In addition, during the fourth quarter 2011, DISH Network and Sprint Nextel

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Corporation (“Sprint”) entered into a mutual release and settlement agreement (the “Sprint Settlement Agreement”) pursuant to which all disputed issues relating to the DBSD Transaction and the TerreStar Transaction were resolved between DISH Network and Sprint, including, but not limited to, issues relating to costs allegedly incurred by Sprint to relocate users from the spectrum then licensed to DBSD North America and TerreStar. Pursuant to the Sprint Settlement Agreement, DISH Network made a net payment of approximately \$114 million to Sprint. The total consideration to acquire these assets was approximately \$2.860 billion. This amount includes \$1.364 billion for the DBSD Transaction, \$1.382 billion for the TerreStar Transaction, and the net payment of \$114 million to Sprint pursuant to the Sprint Settlement Agreement.

DISH Network’s consolidated FCC applications for approval of the license transfers from DBSD North America and TerreStar were accompanied by requests for waiver of the FCC’s Mobile-Satellite Service (“MSS”) “integrated service” and spare satellite requirements and various technical provisions. The FCC denied DISH Network’s requests for waiver of the integrated service and spare satellite requirements. The FCC has not yet acted on the request for waiver of various technical provisions, and DISH Network cannot predict the outcome or timing of any action by the FCC with respect to that waiver request. Waiver of the integrated service requirement would have allowed DISH Network to offer single-mode terrestrial terminals to customers who do not desire satellite functionality. On March 21, 2012, the FCC released a notice of proposed rule making (“NPRM”) that could result in the elimination of the integrated service and other requirements that attach to the 2 GHz licenses. Among other things, the FCC has proposed to modify DISH Network’s licenses to allow DISH Network to offer single-mode terrestrial terminals to customers who do not desire satellite functionality. The NPRM was published in the Federal Register on April 17, 2012. Initial comments on the NPRM are due on or before May 17, 2012, and reply comments are due on or before June 1, 2012. While the FCC has indicated its intent to complete the NPRM during 2012, DISH Network cannot predict the outcome or timing of the NPRM, including, without limitation, any associated build-out requirements with which DISH Network may need to comply to avail itself of any changes to the rules.

As a result of the completion of the DBSD Transaction and the TerreStar Transaction, DISH Network will likely be required to make significant additional investments or partner with others to, among other things, finance the commercialization and build-out requirements of these licenses. We have made cash distributions to DISH Network to finance these acquisitions and may make additional cash distributions to, among other things, finance the commercialization of these licenses and DISH Network’s integration efforts including compliance with regulations applicable to the acquired licenses. Depending on the nature and scope of such commercialization and build-out, any such investment or partnership could vary significantly, which may affect our future financial condition or results of operations. There can be no assurance that DISH Network will be able to develop and implement a business model that will realize a return on these spectrum investments or that DISH Network will be able to profitably deploy the assets represented by these spectrum investments.

*Guarantees*

In connection with the Spin-off, we distributed certain satellite lease agreements to EchoStar and remained the guarantor under those capital leases for payments totaling approximately \$169 million over approximately the next three years.

In addition, during the third quarter 2009, EchoStar entered into a new satellite transponder service agreement for Nimiq 5 through 2024. We sublease this capacity from EchoStar and DISH Network guarantees a certain portion of EchoStar’s payment obligations under this agreement through 2019. As of March 31, 2012, the remaining payment obligations under this agreement are the guarantee of \$486 million.

As of March 31, 2012, we have not recorded a liability on the balance sheet for any of these guarantees.

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**Contingencies**

*Separation Agreement*

In connection with the Spin-off, DISH Network entered into a separation agreement with EchoStar that provides, among other things, for the division of certain liabilities, including liabilities resulting from litigation. Under the terms of the separation agreement, EchoStar has assumed certain liabilities that relate to its business including certain designated liabilities for acts or omissions that occurred prior to the Spin-off. Certain specific provisions govern intellectual property related claims under which, generally, EchoStar will only be liable for its acts or omissions following the Spin-off and DISH Network will indemnify EchoStar for any liabilities or damages resulting from intellectual property claims relating to the period prior to the Spin-off as well as our acts or omissions following the Spin-off.

*Litigation*

We are involved in a number of legal proceedings (including those described below) concerning matters arising in connection with the conduct of our business activities. Many of these proceedings are at preliminary stages, and many of these proceedings seek an indeterminate amount of damages. We regularly evaluate the status of the legal proceedings in which we are involved to assess whether a loss is probable or there is a reasonable possibility that a loss or an additional loss may have been incurred and to determine if accruals are appropriate. If accruals are not appropriate, we further evaluate each legal proceeding to assess whether an estimate of the possible loss or range of possible loss can be made.

For certain cases described on the following pages, management is unable to provide a meaningful estimate of the possible loss or range of possible loss because, among other reasons, (i) the proceedings are in various stages; (ii) damages have not been sought; (iii) damages are unsupported and/or exaggerated; (iv) there is uncertainty as to the outcome of pending appeals or motions; (v) there are significant factual issues to be resolved; and/or (vi) there are novel legal issues or unsettled legal theories to be presented or a large number of parties (as with many patent-related cases). For these cases, however, management does not believe, based on currently available information, that the outcomes of these proceedings will have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, though the outcomes could be material to our operating results for any particular period, depending, in part, upon the operating results for such period.

*Channel Bundling Class Action*

During 2007, a purported class of cable and satellite subscribers filed an antitrust action against our wholly-owned subsidiary, DISH Network L.L.C., in the United States District Court for the Central District of California. The suit also names as defendants DirecTV, Comcast, Cablevision, Cox, Charter, Time Warner, Inc., Time Warner Cable, NBC Universal, Viacom, Fox Entertainment Group and Walt Disney Company. The suit alleges, among other things, that the defendants engaged in a conspiracy to provide customers with access only to bundled channel offerings as opposed to giving customers the ability to purchase channels on an “a la carte” basis. On October 16, 2009, the District Court entered an order granting the defendants’ motion to dismiss with prejudice. On June 3, 2011, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit affirmed the District Court’s order. The plaintiff class sought rehearing en banc. On October 31, 2011, the Ninth Circuit issued an order vacating the previous June 3, 2011 order, directing that a 3-judge panel be reconstituted, and denying the plaintiff class’ motion for rehearing. On March 30, 2012, the reconstituted panel of the Ninth Circuit again affirmed the District Court’s order. On April 10, 2012, the plaintiff class again filed a petition for rehearing en banc, which was denied on May 4, 2012. We intend to vigorously defend this case. We cannot predict with any degree of certainty the outcome of the suit or determine the extent of any potential liability or damages.

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***Cyberfone Systems, LLC (f/k/a LVL Patent Group, LLC)***

On September 15, 2011, LVL Patent Group, LLC filed a complaint against our wholly-owned subsidiary, DISH Network L.L.C., as well as EchoStar, EchoStar Technologies L.L.C., a wholly-owned subsidiary of EchoStar, and DirecTV in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware alleging infringement of United States Patent No. 6,044,382, which is entitled “Data Transaction Assembly Server.” On November 18, 2011, Cyberfone Systems, LLC (f/k/a LVL Patent Group, LLC) filed an amended complaint making the same claim. DirecTV was dismissed from the case on January 4, 2012.

We intend to vigorously defend this case. In the event that a court ultimately determines that we infringe the asserted patent, we may be subject to substantial damages, which may include treble damages, and/or an injunction that could require us to materially modify certain features that we currently offer to consumers. We cannot predict with any degree of certainty the outcome of the suit or determine the extent of any potential liability or damages.

***ESPN***

During 2008, our wholly-owned subsidiary, DISH Network L.L.C., filed a lawsuit against ESPN, Inc., ESPN Classic, Inc., ABC Cable Networks Group, Soapnet L.L.C. and International Family Entertainment (collectively, “ESPN”) for breach of contract in New York State Supreme Court. Our complaint alleges that ESPN failed to provide us with certain high-definition feeds of the Disney Channel, ESPN News, Toon and ABC Family. In October 2011, the jury returned a verdict in favor of the defendants. We intend to appeal.

ESPN had asserted a counterclaim alleging that we owed approximately \$35 million under the applicable affiliation agreements. On April 15, 2009, the New York State Supreme Court granted, in part, ESPN’s motion for summary judgment on the counterclaim, finding that we are liable for some of the amount alleged to be owing but that the actual amount owing is disputed. On December 29, 2010, the New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, First Department affirmed the partial grant of ESPN’s motion on the counterclaim. After the partial grant of ESPN’s motion for summary judgment, ESPN sought an additional \$30 million under the applicable affiliation agreements. On March 15, 2010, the New York State Supreme Court affirmed the prior grant of ESPN’s motion and ruled that we owe the full amount of approximately \$66 million under the applicable affiliation agreement. As of December 31, 2010, we had \$42 million recorded as a “Litigation accrual” on our Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets.

On June 21, 2011, the First Department affirmed the New York Supreme Court’s ruling that we owe approximately \$66 million under the applicable affiliation agreements and, on October 18, 2011, denied our motion for leave to appeal that decision to New York’s highest court, the New York Court of Appeals. We sought leave to appeal directly to the New York Court of Appeals and, on January 10, 2012, the New York Court of Appeals dismissed our motion for leave on the ground that the ruling upon which we appealed does not fully resolve all claims in the action. As a result of the First Department’s June 2011 ruling, during 2011, we recorded \$24 million of “Litigation Expense” on our Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss). On February 6, 2012, ESPN filed a motion seeking \$5 million in attorneys’ fees as the prevailing party on both our claim and ESPN’s counterclaim, which we have opposed. As a result, during the three months ended March 31, 2012, we recorded \$5 million of “General and administrative expenses” and increased our “Litigation accrual” to a total of \$71 million as of March 31, 2012. This reflects our estimated exposure for ESPN’s counterclaim. We intend to vigorously prosecute and defend this case.

***Norman IP Holdings, Inc.***

On September 15, 2011, Norman IP Holdings, Inc. (“Norman”) filed a patent infringement complaint against Brother International Corporation and Lexmark International Corporation in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas alleging infringement of U.S. Patent No. 5,592,555 (the “555 patent”) and U.S. Patent No. 5,502,689 (the “689 patent”). On December 9, 2011, Norman filed a first amended complaint that added Ricoh Americas Corporation and dropped Brother International Corporation as defendants. On January 27, 2012, Norman

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filed a second amended complaint that added DISH Network as a defendant, in addition to adding Belkin International, Inc., BMW of North America LLC, Daimler North America Corporation, Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC, D-Link Systems, Inc., Ford Motor Company, Garmin International, Inc., Garmin USA, Inc., General Electric Company, General Motors Company, JVC Americas Corporation, Novatel Wireless, Inc., Novatel Wireless Solutions, Inc., Novatel Wireless Technology, Inc., TomTom, Inc., ViewSonic Corporation, Vizio, Inc., Volkswagen Group of America, Inc., Xerox Corporation, ZTE USA, Inc., and ZTE Solutions, Inc. The '555 patent relates to a wireless communications privacy method and system and the '689 patent relates to a clock generator capable of shut-down mode and clock generation method. Norman is an entity that seeks to license an acquired patent portfolio without itself practicing any of the claims recited therein.

We intend to vigorously defend this case. In the event that a court ultimately determines that we infringe any of the asserted patents, we may be subject to substantial damages, which may include treble damages, and/or an injunction that could require us to materially modify certain features that we currently offer to consumers. We cannot predict with any degree of certainty the outcome of the suit or determine the extent of any potential liability or damages.

***NorthPoint Technology, Ltd.***

On July 2, 2009, NorthPoint Technology, Ltd. ("NorthPoint") filed suit against DISH Network, EchoStar and DirecTV in the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas alleging infringement of United States Patent No. 6,208,636 (the "'636 patent"). The '636 patent relates to the use of multiple low-noise block converter feedhorns, or LNBFs, which are antennas used for satellite reception. On April 21, 2011, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office issued an order granting reexamination of the '636 patent. On June 21, 2011, the District Court entered summary judgment in DISH Network's favor, finding that all asserted claims of the '636 patent are invalid. NorthPoint has appealed.

We intend to vigorously defend this case. In the event that a court ultimately determines that we infringe the asserted patent, we may be subject to substantial damages, which may include treble damages, and/or an injunction that could require us to materially modify certain features that we currently offer to consumers. We cannot predict with any degree of certainty the outcome of the suit or determine the extent of any potential liability or damages.

***Olympic Developments AG, LLC***

On January 20, 2011, Olympic Developments AG, LLC ("Olympic") filed suit against our wholly-owned subsidiary, DISH Network L.L.C., Atlantic Broadband, Inc., Bright House Networks, LLC, Cable One, Inc., Cequel Communications Holdings I, LLC, CSC Holdings, LLC, GCI Communication Corp., Insight Communications Company, Inc., Knology, Inc., Mediacom Communications Corporation and RCN Telecom Services, LLC in the United States District Court for the Central District of California alleging infringement of United States Patent Nos. 5,475,585 and 6,246,400. The patents relate to on-demand services. Olympic is an entity that seeks to license an acquired patent portfolio without itself practicing any of the claims recited therein. On June 13, 2011, the case was transferred to the Northern District of California. On November 4, 2011, the case was stayed pending reexamination by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

We intend to vigorously defend this case. In the event that a court ultimately determines that we infringe the asserted patents, we may be subject to substantial damages, which may include treble damages, and/or an injunction that could require us to materially modify certain features that we currently offer to consumers. We cannot predict with any degree of certainty the outcome of the suit or determine the extent of any potential liability or damages.

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***Personalized Media Communications, Inc.***

During 2008, Personalized Media Communications, Inc. (“PMC”) filed suit against DISH Network, EchoStar and Motorola Inc. in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas alleging infringement of United States Patent Nos. 4,694,490, 5,109,414, 4,965,825, 5,233,654, 5,335,277, and 5,887,243, which relate to satellite signal processing. PMC is an entity that seeks to license an acquired patent portfolio without itself practicing any of the claims recited therein. Subsequently, Motorola Inc. settled with PMC, leaving EchoStar and DISH Network as defendants. Trial is currently set for August 2012.

We intend to vigorously defend this case. In the event that a court ultimately determines that we infringe any of the asserted patents, we may be subject to substantial damages, which may include treble damages, and/or an injunction that could require us to materially modify certain features that we currently offer to consumers. We cannot predict with any degree of certainty the outcome of the suit or determine the extent of any potential liability or damages.

***Preservation Technologies, LLC***

In December 2011, Preservation Technologies, LLC (“Preservation Technologies”) filed suit against DISH Network in the United States District Court for the Central District of California. In the Operative Fourth Amended Complaint, filed on March 28, 2012, Preservation Technologies alleges that our BLOCKBUSTER On Demand, DISH branded pay-TV and DISH Online services infringe U.S. Patent Nos. 5,813,014, 5,832,499, 6,092,080, 6,353,831, 6,574,638, 6,199,060, 5,832,495, 6,549,911, 6,212,527 and 6,477,537. The patents relate to digital libraries, the management of multimedia assets, and the cataloging of multimedia data. Preservation Technologies is an entity that seeks to license an acquired patent portfolio without itself practicing any of the claims recited therein.

We intend to vigorously defend this case. In the event that a court ultimately determines that we infringe the asserted patents, we may be subject to substantial damages, which may include treble damages, and/or an injunction that could require us to materially modify certain features that we currently offer to consumers. We cannot predict with any degree of certainty the outcome of the suit or determine the extent of any potential liability or damages.

***Ronald A. Katz Technology Licensing, L.P.***

During 2007, Ronald A. Katz Technology Licensing, L.P. (“Katz”) filed a patent infringement action against our wholly-owned subsidiary, DISH Network L.L.C., in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California. The suit alleges infringement of 19 patents owned by Katz. The patents relate to interactive voice response, or IVR, technology. The case has been transferred and consolidated for pretrial purposes in the United States District Court for the Central District of California by order of the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation. Only four patents remain in the case against us, one of which is subject to a reexamination request before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, which was filed on February 13, 2012.

We intend to vigorously defend this case. In the event that a court ultimately determines that we infringe any of the asserted patents, we may be subject to substantial damages, which may include treble damages and/or an injunction that could require us to materially modify certain features that we currently offer to consumers. We cannot predict with any degree of certainty the outcome of the suit or determine the extent of any potential liability or damages.

***Technology Development and Licensing L.L.C.***

On January 22, 2009, Technology Development and Licensing L.L.C. (“TDL”) filed suit against DISH Network and EchoStar in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois alleging infringement of United States Patent No. Re. 35,952, which relates to certain favorite channel features. TDL is an entity that seeks to license an acquired patent portfolio without itself practicing any of the claims recited therein. In July 2009, the

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Court granted DISH Network’s motion to stay the case pending two reexamination petitions before the Patent and Trademark Office.

We intend to vigorously defend this case. In the event that a court ultimately determines that we infringe the asserted patent, we may be subject to substantial damages, which may include treble damages, and/or an injunction that could require us to materially modify certain features that we currently offer to consumers. We cannot predict with any degree of certainty the outcome of the suit or determine the extent of any potential liability or damages.

***TQP Development, LLC***

On April 4, 2012, TQP Development, LLC (“TQP Development”) filed suit against our wholly-owned subsidiary, DISH Network L.L.C., in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas alleging infringement of United States Patent No. 5,412,730 titled “Encrypted Data Transmission System Employing Means for Randomly Altering the Encryption Keys.” TQP Development is an entity that seeks to license an acquired patent portfolio without itself practicing any of the claims recited therein.

We intend to vigorously defend this case. In the event that a court ultimately determines that we infringe the asserted patent, we may be subject to substantial damages, which may include treble damages, and/or an injunction that could require us to materially modify certain features that we currently offer to consumers. We cannot predict with any degree of certainty the outcome of the suit or determine the extent of any potential liability or damages.

***Vigilos, LLC***

On February 23, 2011, Vigilos, LLC filed suit against EchoStar, two EchoStar subsidiaries, Sling Media, Inc. and EchoStar Technologies L.L.C., and Monsoon Multimedia, Inc. in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas alleging infringement of U.S. Patent No. 6,839,731, which is entitled “System and Method for Providing Data Communication in a Device Network.” Subsequently in 2011, Vigilos added DISH Network L.L.C., our wholly-owned subsidiary, as a defendant in its First Amended Complaint and the case was transferred to the Northern District of California. Later in 2011, Vigilos filed a Second Amended Complaint that added claims for infringement of a second patent, U.S. Patent No. 7,370,074, which is entitled “System and Method for Implementing Open-Protocol Remote Device Control.” Vigilos is an entity that seeks to license an acquired patent portfolio without itself practicing any of the claims recited therein.

We intend to vigorously defend this case. In the event that a court ultimately determines that we infringe the asserted patents, we may be subject to substantial damages, which may include treble damages, and/or an injunction that could require us to materially modify certain features that we currently offer to consumers. We cannot predict with any degree of certainty the outcome of the suit or determine the extent of any potential liability or damages.

***Voom HD Holdings***

In January 2008, Voom HD Holdings (“Voom”) filed a lawsuit against our wholly-owned subsidiary, DISH Network L.L.C., in New York Supreme Court, alleging breach of contract and other claims arising from our termination of the affiliation agreement governing carriage of certain Voom HD channels on the DISH branded pay-TV service. At that time, Voom also sought a preliminary injunction to prevent us from terminating the agreement. The Court denied Voom’s request, finding, among other things, that Voom had not demonstrated that it was likely to prevail on the merits. In April 2010, we and Voom each filed motions for summary judgment. Voom later filed two motions seeking discovery sanctions. On November 9, 2010, the Court issued a decision denying both motions for summary judgment, but granting Voom’s motions for discovery sanctions. The Court’s decision provides for an adverse inference jury instruction at trial and precludes our damages expert from testifying at trial. We appealed the grant of Voom’s motion for discovery sanctions to the New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, First Department. On February 15, 2011, the appellate court granted our motion to stay the trial pending our appeal. On January 31, 2012, the appellate court affirmed the order imposing

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discovery sanctions and precluding our damages expert from testifying at trial. We sought leave to appeal to New York's highest state court, the Court of Appeals, but that motion was denied on April 26, 2012. A trial date has not been set. Voom is claiming over \$2.5 billion in damages. We intend to vigorously defend this case. We cannot predict with any degree of certainty the outcome of the suit or determine the extent of any potential liability or damages.

***Other***

In addition to the above actions, we are subject to various other legal proceedings and claims which arise in the ordinary course of business, including, among other things, disputes with programmers regarding fees. In our opinion, the amount of ultimate liability with respect to any of these actions is unlikely to materially affect our financial position, results of operations or liquidity, though the outcomes could be material to our operating results for any particular period, depending, in part, upon the operating results for such period.

**9. Financial Information for Subsidiary Guarantors**

Our senior notes are fully, unconditionally and jointly and severally guaranteed by all of our subsidiaries other than minor subsidiaries and the stand alone entity DDBS has no independent assets or operations. Therefore, supplemental financial information on a condensed consolidating basis of the guarantor subsidiaries is not required. There are no restrictions on our ability to obtain cash dividends or other distributions of funds from the guarantor subsidiaries, except those imposed by applicable law.

**10. Related Party Transactions**

***Related Party Transactions with DISH Network***

On April 19, 2011, we paid a dividend of \$1.5 billion to DOC in connection with, among other things, the funding of DISH Network's investments in DBSD North America and DISH Network's acquisition of most of the assets of Blockbuster, Inc.

On August 10, 2011, we paid a dividend of \$700 million to DOC in connection with, among other things, the funding of the TerreStar Transaction.

On November 1, 2011, the board of directors of DISH Network declared a dividend of \$2.00 per share on its outstanding Class A and Class B common stock, or \$893 million in the aggregate. On November 30, 2011, we paid a dividend of \$1.3 billion to DOC to fund the payment of DISH Network's dividend and other potential DISH Network cash needs.

*Blockbuster.* On April 26, 2011, our parent, DISH Network, completed the acquisition of most of the assets of Blockbuster, Inc. During the three months ended March 31, 2012, we recorded \$5 million of "Subscriber-related expenses" on our Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss) for Blockbuster services provided to our subscribers related to certain of our promotions.

***Related Party Transactions with EchoStar***

Following the Spin-off, EchoStar has operated as a separate public company, and we have no continued ownership interest in EchoStar. However, a substantial majority of the voting power of the shares of both companies is owned beneficially by Charles W. Ergen, our Chairman, or by certain trusts established by Mr. Ergen for the benefit of his family.

EchoStar is our primary supplier of set-top boxes and digital broadcast operations and our key supplier of transponder capacity. Generally, the amounts we pay EchoStar for products and services are based on pricing equal

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to EchoStar's cost plus a fixed margin (unless noted differently below), which will vary depending on the nature of the products and services provided.

Since the Spin-off, we and EchoStar have entered into certain agreements pursuant to which we obtain certain products, services and rights from EchoStar; EchoStar obtains certain products, services and rights from us; and we and EchoStar have indemnified each other against certain liabilities arising from our respective businesses. We also may enter into additional agreements with EchoStar in the future. The following is a summary of the terms of the principal agreements with EchoStar that may have an impact on our financial position and results of operations.

***“Equipment sales - EchoStar”***

*Remanufactured Receiver Agreement.* We entered into a remanufactured receiver agreement with EchoStar pursuant to which EchoStar has the right, but not the obligation, to purchase remanufactured receivers and accessories from us at cost plus a fixed margin, which varies depending on the nature of the equipment purchased. In November 2011, we and EchoStar extended this agreement until December 31, 2012. EchoStar may terminate the remanufactured receiver agreement for any reason upon at least 60 days notice to us. We may also terminate this agreement if certain entities acquire us.

***“Services and other revenue - EchoStar”***

*Professional Services Agreement.* Prior to 2010, in connection with the Spin-off, DISH Network entered into various agreements with EchoStar including the Transition Services Agreement, Satellite Procurement Agreement and Services Agreement, which all expired on January 1, 2010 and were replaced by a Professional Services Agreement. During 2009, DISH Network and EchoStar agreed that EchoStar shall continue to have the right, but not the obligation, to receive the following services from DISH Network, among others, certain of which were previously provided under the Transition Services Agreement: information technology, travel and event coordination, internal audit, legal, accounting and tax, benefits administration, program acquisition services and other support services. Additionally, DISH Network and EchoStar agreed that DISH Network shall continue to have the right, but not the obligation, to engage EchoStar to manage the process of procuring new satellite capacity for DISH Network (previously provided under the Satellite Procurement Agreement) and receive logistics, procurement and quality assurance services from EchoStar (previously provided under the Services Agreement). The Professional Services Agreement automatically renewed on January 1, 2012 for an additional one-year period until January 1, 2013 and renews automatically for successive one-year periods thereafter, unless terminated earlier by either party upon at least 60 days notice. However, either party may terminate the Professional Services Agreement in part with respect to any particular service it receives for any reason upon at least 30 days notice.

*Management Services Agreement.* DISH Network entered into a Management Services Agreement with EchoStar pursuant to which DISH Network makes certain of its officers available to provide services (which are primarily legal and accounting services) to EchoStar. Specifically, Paul W. Orban remains employed by DISH Network, but also served as EchoStar's Senior Vice President and Controller through April 2012. In addition, R. Stanton Dodge remains employed by us, but also served as EchoStar's Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary through November 2011. EchoStar makes payments to DISH Network based upon an allocable portion of the personnel costs and expenses incurred by DISH Network with respect to such officers (taking into account wages and fringe benefits). These allocations are based upon the estimated percentages of time to be spent by DISH Network's executive officers performing services for EchoStar under the Management Services Agreement. EchoStar also reimburses DISH Network for direct out-of-pocket costs incurred by DISH Network for management services provided to EchoStar. DISH Network and EchoStar evaluate all charges for reasonableness at least annually and make any adjustments to these charges as DISH Network and EchoStar mutually agree upon.

The Management Services Agreement automatically renewed on January 1, 2012 for an additional one-year period until January 1, 2013 and renews automatically for successive one-year periods thereafter, unless terminated earlier:

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(i) by EchoStar at any time upon at least 30 days notice; (ii) by DISH Network at the end of any renewal term, upon at least 180 days notice; or (iii) by DISH Network upon notice to EchoStar, following certain changes in control.

*Satellite Capacity Leased to EchoStar.* During 2009, we entered into a satellite capacity agreement pursuant to which EchoStar leases certain satellite capacity from us on EchoStar I. The fee for the services provided under this satellite capacity agreement depends, among other things, upon the orbital location of the satellite and the length of the lease.

The lease generally terminates upon the earlier of: (i) the end of life or replacement of the satellite (unless EchoStar determines to renew on a year-to-year basis); (ii) the date the satellite fails; (iii) the date the transponder on which service is being provided fails; or (iv) a certain date, which depends, among other things, upon the estimated useful life of the satellite, whether the replacement satellite fails at launch or in orbit prior to being placed into service, and the exercise of certain renewal options. EchoStar generally has the option to renew this lease on a year-to-year basis through the end of the satellite's life. There can be no assurance that any options to renew this agreement will be exercised.

*Real Estate Lease Agreement .* During 2008, DISH Network entered into a sublease for space at 185 Varick Street, New York, New York to EchoStar for a period of approximately seven years. The rent on a per square foot basis for this sublease was comparable to per square foot rental rates of similar commercial property in the same geographic area at the time of the sublease, and EchoStar is responsible for its portion of the taxes, insurance, utilities and maintenance of the premises.

***“Satellite and transmission expenses — EchoStar”***

*Broadcast Agreement.* In connection with the Spin-off, we and EchoStar entered into a broadcast agreement pursuant to which EchoStar provided certain broadcast services to us, including teleport services such as transmission and downlinking, channel origination services, and channel management services for a period ending on January 1, 2012 (the “Prior Broadcast Agreement”). We had the ability to terminate channel origination services and channel management services for any reason and without any liability upon at least 60 days notice to EchoStar. If we terminated teleport services for a reason other than EchoStar's breach, we were obligated to pay EchoStar the aggregate amount of the remainder of the expected cost of providing the teleport services. The fees for the services provided under the Prior Broadcast Agreement were calculated at cost plus a fixed margin, which varied depending on the nature of the products and services provided.

Effective January 1, 2012, we and EchoStar entered into a new broadcast agreement (the “2012 Broadcast Agreement”) pursuant to which EchoStar will continue to provide broadcast services to us, for the period from January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2016. The material terms of the 2012 Broadcast Agreement are substantially the same as the material terms of the Prior Broadcast Agreement, except that: (i) the fees for services provided under the 2012 Broadcast Agreement are calculated at either: (a) EchoStar's cost of providing the relevant service plus a fixed dollar fee, which is subject to certain adjustments; or (b) EchoStar's cost of providing the relevant service plus a fixed margin, which will depend on the nature of the services provided; and (ii) if we terminate the teleport services provided under the 2012 Broadcast Agreement for a reason other than EchoStar's breach, we are generally obligated to reimburse EchoStar for any direct costs EchoStar incurs related to any such termination that it cannot reasonably mitigate.

*Broadcast Agreement for Certain Sports Related Programming.* During May 2010, we and EchoStar entered into a broadcast agreement pursuant to which EchoStar provides certain broadcast services to us in connection with our carriage of certain sports related programming. The term of this agreement is for ten years. If we terminate this agreement for a reason other than EchoStar's breach, we are generally obligated to reimburse EchoStar for any direct costs EchoStar incurs related to any such termination that it cannot reasonably mitigate. The fees for the broadcast services provided under this agreement depend, among other things, upon the cost to develop and provide such services.

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*Satellite Capacity Leased from EchoStar.* Since the Spin-off, we have entered into certain satellite capacity agreements pursuant to which we lease certain satellite capacity on certain satellites owned or leased by EchoStar. The fees for the services provided under these satellite capacity agreements depend, among other things, upon the orbital location of the applicable satellite and the length of the lease. The term of each lease is set forth below:

*EchoStar VI, VIII and XII.* We lease certain satellite capacity from EchoStar on EchoStar VI, VIII and XII. The leases generally terminate upon the earlier of: (i) the end of life or replacement of the satellite (unless we determine to renew on a year-to-year basis); (ii) the date the satellite fails; (iii) the date the transponders on which service is being provided fails; or (iv) a certain date, which depends upon, among other things, the estimated useful life of the satellite, whether the replacement satellite fails at launch or in orbit prior to being placed into service and the exercise of certain renewal options. We generally have the option to renew each lease on a year-to-year basis through the end of the respective satellite's life. There can be no assurance that any options to renew such agreements will be exercised.

*EchoStar IX.* We lease certain satellite capacity from EchoStar on EchoStar IX. Subject to availability, we generally have the right to continue to lease satellite capacity from EchoStar on EchoStar IX on a month-to-month basis.

*EchoStar XVI.* We will lease certain satellite capacity from EchoStar on EchoStar XVI after its service commencement date and this lease generally terminates upon the earlier of: (i) the end of life or replacement of the satellite; (ii) the date the satellite fails; (iii) the date the transponder(s) on which service is being provided under the agreement fails; or (iv) ten years following the actual service commencement date. Upon expiration of the initial term, we have the option to renew on a year-to-year basis through the end of life of the satellite. There can be no assurance that any options to renew this agreement will be exercised. EchoStar XVI is expected to be launched during the second half of 2012.

*EchoStar XV.* EchoStar XV is owned by us and is operated at the 61.5 degree orbital location. The FCC has granted EchoStar an authorization to operate the satellite at the 61.5 degree orbital location. For so long as EchoStar XV remains in service at the 61.5 degree orbital location, we are obligated to pay EchoStar a fee, which varies depending on the number of frequencies being used by EchoStar XV.

*Nimiq 5 Agreement.* During 2009, EchoStar entered into a fifteen-year satellite service agreement with Telesat Canada ("Telesat") to receive service on all 32 DBS transponders on the Nimiq 5 satellite at the 72.7 degree orbital location (the "Telesat Transponder Agreement"). During 2009, EchoStar also entered into a satellite service agreement (the "DISH Nimiq 5 Agreement") with us, pursuant to which we currently receive service from EchoStar on all 32 of the DBS transponders covered by the Telesat Transponder Agreement. We have also guaranteed certain obligations of EchoStar under the Telesat Transponder Agreement. See discussion under "Guarantees" in Note 8.

Under the terms of the DISH Nimiq 5 Agreement, we make certain monthly payments to EchoStar that commenced in 2009 when the Nimiq 5 satellite was placed into service and continue through the service term. Unless earlier terminated under the terms and conditions of the DISH Nimiq 5 Agreement, the service term will expire ten years following the date it was placed into service. Upon expiration of the initial term we have the option to renew the DISH Nimiq 5 Agreement on a year-to-year basis through the end of life of the Nimiq 5 satellite. Upon in-orbit failure or end of life of the Nimiq 5 satellite, and in certain other circumstances, we have certain rights to receive service from EchoStar on a replacement satellite. There can be no assurance that any options to renew the DISH Nimiq 5 Agreement will be exercised or that we will exercise our option to receive service on a replacement satellite.

*QuetzSat-1 Lease Agreement.* During 2008, EchoStar entered into a ten-year satellite service agreement with SES Latin America S.A. ("SES"), which provides, among other things, for the provision by SES to EchoStar of service on 32 DBS transponders on the QuetzSat-1 satellite. During 2008, EchoStar also entered into a transponder service

**DISH DBS CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — Continued**  
(Unaudited)

agreement (“QuetzSat-1 Transponder Agreement”) with us pursuant to which we will receive service from EchoStar on 24 of the DBS transponders. The QuetzSat-1 Transponder Agreement will be accounted for as an operating lease. QuetzSat-1 was launched on September 29, 2011 and was placed into service during the fourth quarter 2011 at the 67.1 degree orbital location while we and EchoStar explore alternative uses for the QuetzSat-1 satellite. In the interim, EchoStar is providing us with alternate capacity at the 77 degree orbital location.

Under the terms of the QuetzSat-1 Transponder Agreement, we will make certain monthly payments to EchoStar commencing when the QuetzSat-1 satellite is placed into service at the 77 degree orbital location and continuing through the remainder of the service term. Unless earlier terminated under the terms and conditions of the QuetzSat-1 Transponder Agreement, the initial service term will expire in November 2021. Upon expiration of the initial term, we have the option to renew the QuetzSat-1 Transponder Agreement on a year-to-year basis through the end of life of the QuetzSat-1 satellite. Upon an in-orbit failure or end of life of the QuetzSat-1 satellite, and in certain other circumstances, we have certain rights to receive service from EchoStar on a replacement satellite. There can be no assurance that any options to renew the QuetzSat-1 Transponder Agreement will be exercised or that we will exercise our option to receive service on a replacement satellite.

*TT&C Agreement.* In connection with the Spin-off, we entered into a telemetry, tracking and control (“TT&C”) agreement pursuant to which we received TT&C services from EchoStar for a period ending on January 1, 2012 (the “Prior TT&C Agreement”). The fees for services provided under the Prior TT&C Agreement were calculated at cost plus a fixed margin. We were able to terminate the Prior TT&C Agreement for any reason upon 60 days notice.

Effective January 1, 2012, we entered into a TT&C agreement pursuant to which we will continue to receive TT&C services from EchoStar for a period ending on December 31, 2016 (the “2012 TT&C Agreement”). The material terms of the 2012 TT&C Agreement are substantially the same as the material terms of the Prior TT&C Agreement, except that the fees for services provided under the 2012 TT&C Agreement are calculated at either: (i) a fixed fee; or (ii) cost plus a fixed margin, which will vary depending on the nature of the services provided.

*RUS Implementation Agreement.* In September 2010, DISH Broadband L.L.C. (“DISH Broadband”), our wholly-owned subsidiary, was selected by the Rural Utilities Service (“RUS”) of the United States Department of Agriculture to receive up to approximately \$14 million in broadband stimulus grant funds (the “Grant Funds”). Effective November 2011, DISH Broadband and Hughes Communications, Inc. (“Hughes”), a wholly-owned subsidiary of EchoStar, entered into a RUS Implementation Agreement (the “RUS Agreement”) pursuant to which Hughes provides certain portions of the equipment and broadband service used to implement our RUS program. The initial term of the RUS Agreement shall continue until the earlier of: (i) September 24, 2013; or (ii) the date that the Grant Funds have been exhausted. In addition, DISH Broadband may terminate the RUS Agreement for convenience upon 45 days’ prior written notice to Hughes.

**“Cost of sales — subscriber promotion subsidies — EchoStar”**

*Receiver Agreement.* EchoStar is currently our sole supplier of set-top box receivers. The table below indicates the dollar value of set-top boxes and other equipment that we purchased from EchoStar as well as the amount of purchases that are included in “Cost of sales — subscriber promotion subsidies — EchoStar” on our Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss). The remaining amount is included in “Inventory” and “Property and equipment, net” on our Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets.

**DISH DBS CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — Continued**  
(Unaudited)

<u>Purchases from EchoStar</u>	For the Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2012	2011
	(In thousands)	
Set-top boxes and other equipment	\$ 237,365	\$ 272,126
Set-top boxes and other equipment included in “Cost of sales — subscriber promotion subsidies — EchoStar”	\$ 82,274	\$ 54,426

In connection with the Spin-off, we and EchoStar entered into a receiver agreement pursuant to which we had the right, but not the obligation, to purchase digital set-top boxes and related accessories, and other equipment from EchoStar for a period ending on January 1, 2012 (the “Prior Receiver Agreement”). The Prior Receiver Agreement allowed us to purchase digital set-top boxes, related accessories and other equipment from EchoStar at cost plus a fixed percentage margin, which varied depending on the nature of the equipment purchased. Additionally, EchoStar provided us with standard manufacturer warranties for the goods sold under the Prior Receiver Agreement. We were able to terminate the Prior Receiver Agreement for any reason upon at least 60 days notice to EchoStar. EchoStar was able to terminate the Prior Receiver Agreement if certain entities were to acquire us. The Prior Receiver Agreement also included an indemnification provision, whereby the parties indemnified each other for certain intellectual property matters.

Effective January 1, 2012, we and EchoStar entered into a new agreement (the “2012 Receiver Agreement”) pursuant to which we continue to have the right, but not the obligation, to purchase digital set-top boxes, related accessories, and other equipment from EchoStar for the period from January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2014. We have an option, but not the obligation, to extend the 2012 Receiver Agreement for one additional year upon 180 days notice prior to the end of the term. The material terms of the 2012 Receiver Agreement are substantially the same as the material terms of the Prior Receiver Agreement, except that the 2012 Receiver Agreement allows us to purchase digital set-top boxes, related accessories and other equipment from EchoStar either: (i) at a cost (decreasing as EchoStar reduces costs and increasing as costs increase) plus a dollar mark-up which will depend upon the cost of the product subject to a collar on EchoStar’s mark-up; or (ii) at cost plus a fixed margin, which will depend on the nature of the equipment purchased. Under the 2012 Receiver Agreement, EchoStar’s margins will be increased if they are able to reduce the costs of their digital set-top boxes and their margins will be reduced if these costs increase.

**“General and administrative expenses — EchoStar”**

*Product Support Agreement.* In connection with the Spin-off, we entered into a product support agreement pursuant to which we have the right, but not the obligation, to receive product support from EchoStar (including certain engineering and technical support services) for all set-top boxes and related accessories that EchoStar has previously sold and in the future may sell to us. The fees for the services provided under the product support agreement are calculated at cost plus a fixed margin, which varies depending on the nature of the services provided. The term of the product support agreement is the economic life of such receivers and related accessories, unless terminated earlier. We may terminate the product support agreement for any reason upon at least 60 days notice. In the event of an early termination of this agreement, we are entitled to a refund of any unearned fees paid to EchoStar for the services.

*Real Estate Lease Agreements.* We have entered into lease agreements pursuant to which we lease certain real estate from EchoStar. The rent on a per square foot basis for each of the leases is comparable to per square foot rental rates of similar commercial property in the same geographic area, and EchoStar is responsible for its portion of the taxes, insurance, utilities and maintenance of the premises. The term of each of the leases is set forth below:

**DISH DBS CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — Continued**  
(Unaudited)

- *Inverness Lease Agreement.* The lease for certain space at 90 Inverness Circle East in Englewood, Colorado is for a period ending on December 31, 2016. This agreement can be terminated by either party upon six months prior notice.
- *Meridian Lease Agreement.* The lease for all of 9601 S. Meridian Blvd. in Englewood, Colorado is for a period ending on December 31, 2016.
- *Santa Fe Lease Agreement.* The lease for all of 5701 S. Santa Fe Dr. in Littleton, Colorado is for a period ending on December 31, 2016 with a renewal option for one additional year.
- *EchoStar Data Networks Sublease Agreement .* The sublease for certain space at 211 Perimeter Center in Atlanta, Georgia is for a period ending on October 31, 2016.
- *Gilbert Lease Agreement.* The lease for certain space at 801 N. DISH Dr. in Gilbert, Arizona is a month to month lease and can be terminated by either party upon 30 days prior notice.
- *Cheyenne Lease Agreement.* Effective January 1, 2012, we and EchoStar entered into a lease for certain space at 530 EchoStar Drive in Cheyenne, Wyoming for a period ending on December 31, 2031.

*DISHOnline.com Services Agreement.* Effective January 1, 2010, we entered into a two-year agreement with EchoStar pursuant to which we will receive certain services associated with an online video portal. The fees for the services provided under this services agreement depend, among other things, upon the cost to develop and operate such services. We have the option to renew this agreement for three successive one year terms and the agreement may be terminated for any reason upon at least 120 days notice to EchoStar. In November 2011, we exercised our right to renew this agreement for a one-year period ending on December 31, 2012.

*DISH Remote Access Services Agreement.* Effective February 23, 2010, we entered into an agreement with EchoStar pursuant to which we will receive, among other things, certain remote DVR management services. The fees for the services provided under this services agreement depend, among other things, upon the cost to develop and operate such services. This agreement has a term of five years with automatic renewal for successive one year terms and may be terminated for any reason upon at least 120 days notice to EchoStar.

*SlingService Services Agreement.* Effective February 23, 2010, we entered into an agreement with EchoStar pursuant to which we will receive certain place-shifting services. The fees for the services provided under this services agreement depend, among other things, upon the cost to develop and operate such services. This agreement has a term of five years with automatic renewal for successive one year terms and may be terminated for any reason upon at least 120 days notice to EchoStar.

*Move Networks Services Agreement.* In the fourth quarter 2011, EchoStar granted DISH Network the right to use Move Network's software and video publishing systems, which facilitate the streaming, downloading and distribution of audio and video content to set-top boxes via the Internet. The fees for the services provided under this agreement are based upon a fixed fee which varies based upon the number of set-top boxes in a given month that access Move Network's software. This agreement has a term of five years with automatic renewal for successive one year terms and may be terminated for any reason upon at least 180 days notice to EchoStar.

***Other Agreements — EchoStar***

*Tax Sharing Agreement.* In connection with the Spin-off, DISH Network entered into a tax sharing agreement with EchoStar which governs our respective rights, responsibilities and obligations after the Spin-off with respect to taxes for the periods ending on or before the Spin-off. Generally, all pre-Spin-off taxes, including any taxes that are incurred as a result of restructuring activities undertaken to implement the Spin-off, are borne by DISH Network,

**DISH DBS CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — Continued**  
(Unaudited)

and DISH Network will indemnify EchoStar for such taxes. However, DISH Network is not liable for and will not indemnify EchoStar for any taxes that are incurred as a result of the Spin-off or certain related transactions failing to qualify as tax-free distributions pursuant to any provision of Section 355 or Section 361 of the Code because of: (i) a direct or indirect acquisition of any of EchoStar's stock, stock options or assets; (ii) any action that EchoStar takes or fails to take; or (iii) any action that EchoStar takes that is inconsistent with the information and representations furnished to the IRS in connection with the request for the private letter ruling, or to counsel in connection with any opinion being delivered by counsel with respect to the Spin-off or certain related transactions. In such case, EchoStar is solely liable for, and will indemnify DISH Network for, any resulting taxes, as well as any losses, claims and expenses. The tax sharing agreement will only terminate after the later of the full period of all applicable statutes of limitations, including extensions, or once all rights and obligations are fully effectuated or performed.

*TiVo.* On April 29, 2011, DISH Network and EchoStar entered into a settlement agreement with TiVo, Inc. ("TiVo"). The settlement resolved all pending litigation between DISH Network and EchoStar, on the one hand, and TiVo, on the other hand, including litigation relating to alleged patent infringement involving certain DISH digital video recorders, or DVRs, which litigation is described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011 under the caption "*Item 3. Legal Proceedings — TiVo Inc.*"

Under the settlement agreement, all pending litigation has been dismissed with prejudice and all injunctions that permanently restrain, enjoin or compel any action by DISH Network or EchoStar have been dissolved. DISH Network and EchoStar are jointly responsible for making payments to TiVo in the aggregate amount of \$500 million, including an initial payment of \$300 million and the remaining \$200 million in six equal annual installments between 2012 and 2017. Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the agreements entered into in connection with the Spin-off of EchoStar from DISH Network, DISH Network made the initial payment to TiVo in May 2011, except for the contribution from EchoStar totaling approximately \$10 million, representing an allocation of liability relating to EchoStar's sales of DVR-enabled receivers to an international customer. Future payments will be allocated between DISH Network and EchoStar based on historical sales of certain licensed products, with DISH Network being responsible for 95% of each annual payment.

DISH Network and EchoStar, on the one hand, and TiVo, on the other hand, have also agreed on mutual releases of certain related claims and agreed not to challenge each other's DVR technology-related patents that are licensed under the settlement agreement.

Because both DISH Network and EchoStar were defendants in the TiVo lawsuit, DISH Network and EchoStar were jointly and severally liable to TiVo for any final damages and sanctions that could have been awarded by the District Court. As previously disclosed, DISH Network determined that it was obligated under the agreements entered into in connection with the Spin-off to indemnify EchoStar for substantially all liability arising from this lawsuit. EchoStar contributed an amount equal to its \$5 million intellectual property liability limit under the receiver agreement. DISH Network and EchoStar further agreed that EchoStar's \$5 million contribution would not exhaust EchoStar's liability to DISH Network for other intellectual property claims that may arise under the receiver agreement. DISH Network and EchoStar also agreed that DISH Network and EchoStar would each be entitled to joint ownership of, and a cross-license to use, any intellectual property developed in connection with any potential new alternative technology. Any amounts that EchoStar is responsible for under the settlement agreement with TiVo are in addition to the \$5 million contribution previously made by EchoStar.

*Patent Cross-License Agreements.* During December 2011, DISH Network and EchoStar entered into separate patent cross-license agreements with the same third party whereby: (i) EchoStar and such third party licensed their respective patents to each other subject to certain conditions; and (ii) DISH Network and such third party licensed their respective patents to each other subject to certain conditions (each, a "Cross-License Agreement"). Each Cross License Agreement covers patents acquired by the respective party prior to January 1, 2017 and aggregate payments under both Cross-License Agreements total less than \$10 million. Each Cross License Agreement also contains an option to extend each Cross-License Agreement to include patents acquired by the respective party prior to January 1, 2022. If both options are exercised, the aggregate additional payments to such third party would total less than \$3

**DISH DBS CORPORATION**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS — Continued**  
(Unaudited)

million. However, DISH Network and EchoStar may elect to extend their respective Cross-License Agreement independent of each other. Since the aggregate payments under both Cross-License Agreements were based on the combined annual revenues of DISH Network and EchoStar, DISH Network and EchoStar agreed to allocate their respective payments to such third party based on their respective percentage of combined total revenue.

*Sprint Settlement Agreement* . On November 3, 2011, DISH Network and Sprint entered into the Sprint Settlement Agreement pursuant to which all disputed issues relating to the DBSD Transaction and the TerreStar Transaction were resolved between DISH Network and Sprint, including, but not limited to, issues relating to costs allegedly incurred by Sprint to relocate users from the spectrum then licensed to DBSD North America and TerreStar (the “Sprint Clearing Costs”). EchoStar was a party to the Sprint Settlement Agreement solely for the purposes of executing a mutual release between it and Sprint relating to the Sprint Clearing Costs. EchoStar was a holder of certain TerreStar debt instruments. In March 2012, EchoStar’s remaining debt instruments were exchanged for a right to receive a distribution in accordance with the terms of the liquidating trust established pursuant to TerreStar’s chapter 11 plan of liquidation. Pursuant to the terms of the Sprint Settlement Agreement, DISH Network made a net payment of approximately \$114 million to Sprint.

***Other Agreements***

In November 2009, Mr. Roger Lynch became employed by both DISH Network and EchoStar as Executive Vice President. Mr. Lynch is responsible for the development and implementation of advanced technologies that are of potential utility and importance to both DISH Network and EchoStar. Mr. Lynch’s compensation consists of cash and equity compensation and is borne by both EchoStar and DISH Network.

***Related Party Transactions with NagraStar L.L.C.***

NagraStar is a joint venture between EchoStar and Nagra USA, Inc. that is our provider of encryption and related security systems intended to assure that only authorized customers have access to our programming.

The table below summarizes our transactions with NagraStar.

	For the Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2012	2011
	(In thousands)	
<b>Purchases (including fees):</b>		
Purchases from NagraStar	\$ 17,484	\$ 20,729
	As of	
	March 31, 2012	December 31, 2011
	(In thousands)	
<b>Amounts Payable and Commitments:</b>		
Amounts payable to NagraStar	\$ 12,925	\$ 5,853

## **Item 2. MANAGEMENT’S NARRATIVE ANALYSIS OF RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

*You should read the following narrative analysis of our results of operations together with the condensed consolidated financial statements and notes to the financial statements included elsewhere in this quarterly report. This management’s narrative analysis is intended to help provide an understanding of our financial condition, changes in financial condition and results of our operations and contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. The forward-looking statements are not historical facts, but rather are based on current expectations, estimates, assumptions and projections about our industry, business and future financial results. Our actual results could differ materially from the results contemplated by these forward-looking statements due to a number of factors, including those discussed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011 and this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q under the caption “Item 1A. Risk Factors.”*

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

#### **Overview**

DISH added approximately 104,000 net subscribers during the three months ended March 31, 2012, compared to approximately 58,000 net subscriber additions during the same period in 2011. The increase versus the same period in 2011 primarily resulted from a decrease in our churn rate. Our average monthly subscriber churn rate for the three months ended March 31, 2012 was 1.35% compared to 1.47% for the same period in 2011. During the three months ended March 31, 2012, DISH added approximately 673,000 gross new subscribers compared to approximately 681,000 gross new subscribers during the same period in 2011, a decrease of 1.2%.

Our churn rate for the three months ended March 31, 2012 was positively impacted versus the same period in 2011 because we did not have a programming package price increase in the first quarter 2012, but did during the same period in 2011. While churn improved compared to the same period in 2011, increased competitive pressures could increase churn in the future. Furthermore, our churn has historically been lower in the first quarter. In addition to these factors, our churn rate is impacted by, among other things, the credit quality of previously acquired subscribers, our ability to consistently provide outstanding customer service, and our ability to control piracy.

Our gross new subscriber activations continue to be negatively impacted by increased competitive pressures, including aggressive marketing and discounted promotional offers. In addition, telecommunications companies continue to grow their customer bases. Our gross new subscriber activations continue to be adversely affected by sustained economic weakness and uncertainty, including, among other things, the weak housing market and lower discretionary spending.

“Net income (loss)” for the three months ended March 31, 2012 was \$277 million compared to \$549 million for the same period in 2011. During the three months ended March 31, 2012, “Net income (loss)” decreased primarily due to a reduction in our accrued expenses related to the TiVo Inc. settlement during 2011.

Programming costs represent a large percentage of our “Subscriber-related expenses.” Going forward, our margins may face pressure if we are unable to renew our long-term programming contracts on favorable pricing and other economic terms. Additionally, our gross new subscriber activations and subscriber churn rate may be negatively impacted if we are unable to renew our long-term programming contracts before they expire.

As the pay-TV industry matures, we and our competitors increasingly must seek to attract a greater proportion of new subscribers from each other’s existing subscriber bases rather than from first-time purchasers of pay-TV services. Some of our competitors have been especially aggressive by offering discounted programming and services for both new and existing subscribers. In addition, programming offered over the Internet has become more prevalent as the speed and quality of broadband networks have improved. Significant changes in consumer behavior with regard to the means by which they obtain video entertainment and information in response to digital media competition could materially adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition or otherwise disrupt our business.

While economic factors have impacted the entire pay-TV industry, our relative performance has also been driven by issues specific to DISH Network. In the past, our subscriber growth has been adversely affected by signal theft and

**Item 2. MANAGEMENT’S NARRATIVE ANALYSIS OF RESULTS OF OPERATIONS — Continued**

other forms of fraud and by operational inefficiencies at DISH Network. To combat signal theft and improve the security of our broadcast system, we completed the replacement of our security access devices to re-secure our system during 2009. We expect that additional future replacements of these devices will be necessary to keep our system secure. To combat other forms of fraud, we continue to expect that our third party distributors and retailers will adhere to our business rules.

While we have made improvements in responding to and dealing with customer service issues, we continue to focus on the prevention of these issues, which is critical to our business, financial position and results of operations. We implemented a new billing system as well as new sales and customer care systems in the first quarter 2012. To improve our operational performance, we continue to make significant investments in staffing, training, information systems, and other initiatives, primarily in our call center and in-home service operations. These investments are intended to help combat inefficiencies introduced by the increasing complexity of our business, improve customer satisfaction, reduce churn, increase productivity, and allow us to scale better over the long run. We cannot, however, be certain that our spending will ultimately be successful in improving our operational performance.

We have been deploying receivers that utilize 8PSK modulation technology and receivers that utilize MPEG-4 compression technology for several years. These technologies, when fully deployed, will allow more programming channels to be carried over our existing satellites. Many of our customers today, however, do not have receivers that use MPEG-4 compression and a smaller but still significant percentage do not have receivers that use 8PSK modulation. We may choose to invest significant capital to accelerate the conversion of customers to MPEG-4 and/or 8PSK to realize the bandwidth benefits sooner. In addition, given that all of our HD content is broadcast in MPEG-4, any growth in HD penetration will naturally accelerate our transition to these newer technologies and may increase our subscriber acquisition and retention costs. All new receivers that we purchase from EchoStar have MPEG-4 technology. Although we continue to refurbish and redeploy MPEG-2 receivers, as a result of our HD initiatives and current promotions, we currently activate most new customers with higher priced MPEG-4 technology. This limits our ability to redeploy MPEG-2 receivers and, to the extent that our promotions are successful, will accelerate the transition to MPEG-4 technology, resulting in an adverse effect on our average subscriber acquisition costs per new subscriber activation.

From time to time, we change equipment for certain subscribers to make more efficient use of transponder capacity in support of HD and other initiatives. We believe that the benefit from the increase in available transponder capacity outweighs the short-term cost of these equipment changes.

To maintain and enhance our competitiveness over the long term, we recently introduced the Hopper™ receiver that allows, among other things, recorded programming to be viewed in HD in multiple rooms. We are also promoting a suite of integrated products designed to maximize the convenience and ease of watching TV anytime and anywhere, which we refer to as TV Everywhere™ which utilizes, among other things, online access and Slingbox “placeshifting” technology. There can be no assurance that these integrated products will positively affect our results of operations or our gross new subscriber activations.

***Operational Liquidity***

Like many companies, we make general investments in property such as satellites, set-top boxes, information technology and facilities that support our overall business. As a subscriber-based company, however, we also make subscriber-specific investments to acquire new subscribers and retain existing subscribers. While the general investments may be deferred without impacting the business in the short-term, the subscriber-specific investments are less discretionary. Our overall objective is to generate sufficient cash flow over the life of each subscriber to provide an adequate return against the upfront investment. Once the upfront investment has been made for each subscriber, the subsequent cash flow is generally positive.

There are a number of factors that impact our future cash flow compared to the cash flow we generate at a given point in time. The first factor is how successful we are at retaining our current subscribers. As we lose subscribers from our existing base, the positive cash flow from that base is correspondingly reduced. The second factor is how successful we are at maintaining our subscriber-related margins. To the extent our “Subscriber-related expenses”

**Item 2. MANAGEMENT’S NARRATIVE ANALYSIS OF RESULTS OF OPERATIONS — Continued**

grow faster than our “Subscriber-related revenue,” the amount of cash flow that is generated per existing subscriber is reduced. The third factor is the rate at which we acquire new subscribers. The faster we acquire new subscribers, the more our positive ongoing cash flow from existing subscribers is offset by the negative upfront cash flow associated with new subscribers. Finally, our future cash flow is impacted by the rate at which we make general investments and any cash flow from financing activities.

Our subscriber-specific investments to acquire new subscribers have a significant impact on our cash flow. While fewer subscribers might translate into lower ongoing cash flow in the long-term, cash flow is actually aided, in the short-term, by the reduction in subscriber-specific investment spending. As a result, a slow down in our business due to external or internal factors does not introduce the same level of short-term liquidity risk as it might in other industries.

*Availability of Credit and Effect on Liquidity*

The ability to raise capital has generally existed for us despite the weak economic conditions. Modest fluctuations in the cost of capital will not likely impact our current operational plans.

*Future Liquidity*

*Wireless Spectrum*

In 2008, DISH Network paid \$712 million to acquire certain 700 MHz wireless spectrum licenses, which were granted to DISH Network by the FCC in February 2009 subject to certain build-out requirements. To commercialize these licenses and satisfy the associated FCC build-out requirements, DISH Network will be required to make significant additional investments or partner with others. We may make cash distributions to DISH Network to, among other things, finance the commercialization and build-out requirements of these licenses and DISH Network’s integration efforts including compliance with regulations applicable to these licenses. Depending on the nature and scope of such commercialization and build-out, any such investment or partnership could vary significantly, which may affect our future financial condition or results of operations. Part or all of these licenses may be terminated if the associated FCC build-out requirements are not satisfied. There can be no assurance that DISH Network will be able to develop and implement a business model that will realize a return on these investments and profitably deploy the spectrum represented by the 700 MHz licenses.

On March 2, 2012, the FCC approved the transfer of 40 MHz of 2 GHz wireless spectrum licenses held by DBSD North America, Inc. (“DBSD North America”) and TerreStar Networks, Inc. (“TerreStar”) to DISH Network. On March 9, 2012, DISH Network closed the acquisitions of 100% of the equity of reorganized DBSD North America (the “DBSD Transaction”) and substantially all of the assets of TerreStar (the “TerreStar Transaction”), pursuant to which DISH Network acquired, among other things, certain satellite assets and wireless spectrum licenses held by DBSD North America and TerreStar. In addition, during the fourth quarter 2011, DISH Network and Sprint Nextel Corporation (“Sprint”) entered into a mutual release and settlement agreement (the “Sprint Settlement Agreement”) pursuant to which all disputed issues relating to the DBSD Transaction and the TerreStar Transaction were resolved between DISH Network and Sprint, including, but not limited to, issues relating to costs allegedly incurred by Sprint to relocate users from the spectrum then licensed to DBSD North America and TerreStar. Pursuant to the Sprint Settlement Agreement, DISH Network made a net payment of approximately \$114 million to Sprint. The total consideration to acquire these assets was approximately \$2.860 billion. This amount includes \$1.364 billion for the DBSD Transaction, \$1.382 billion for the TerreStar Transaction, and the net payment of \$114 million to Sprint pursuant to the Sprint Settlement Agreement.

DISH Network’s consolidated FCC applications for approval of the license transfers from DBSD North America and TerreStar were accompanied by requests for waiver of the FCC’s Mobile-Satellite Service (“MSS”) “integrated service” and spare satellite requirements and various technical provisions. The FCC denied DISH Network’s requests for waiver of the integrated service and spare satellite requirements. The FCC has not yet acted on the request for waiver of various technical provisions, and DISH Network cannot predict the outcome or timing of any action by the FCC with respect to that waiver request. Waiver of the integrated service requirement would have

**Item 2. MANAGEMENT’S NARRATIVE ANALYSIS OF RESULTS OF OPERATIONS — Continued**

allowed DISH Network to offer single-mode terrestrial terminals to customers who do not desire satellite functionality. On March 21, 2012, the FCC released a notice of proposed rule making (“NPRM”) that could result in the elimination of the integrated service and other requirements that attach to the 2 GHz licenses. Among other things, the FCC has proposed to modify DISH Network’s licenses to allow DISH Network to offer single-mode terrestrial terminals to customers who do not desire satellite functionality. The NPRM was published in the Federal Register on April 17, 2012. Initial comments on the NPRM are due on or before May 17, 2012, and reply comments are due on or before June 1, 2012. While the FCC has indicated its intent to complete the NPRM during 2012, DISH Network cannot predict the outcome or timing of the NPRM, including, without limitation, any associated build-out requirements with which DISH Network may need to comply to avail itself of any changes to the rules.

As a result of the completion of the DBSD Transaction and the TerreStar Transaction, DISH Network will likely be required to make significant additional investments or partner with others to, among other things, finance the commercialization and build-out requirements of these licenses. We have made cash distributions to DISH Network to finance these acquisitions and may make additional cash distributions to, among other things, finance the commercialization of these licenses and DISH Network’s integration efforts including compliance with regulations applicable to the acquired licenses. Depending on the nature and scope of such commercialization and build-out, any such investment or partnership could vary significantly, which may affect our future financial condition or results of operations. There can be no assurance that DISH Network will be able to develop and implement a business model that will realize a return on these spectrum investments or that DISH Network will be able to profitably deploy the assets represented by these spectrum investments.

*Voom HD Holdings*

If Voom HD Holdings (“Voom”) prevails in its breach of contract suit against our wholly-owned subsidiary, DISH Network L.L.C., we could be required to pay substantial damages, which would have a material adverse affect on our financial position and results of operations. In January 2008, Voom filed a lawsuit against DISH Network L.L.C., in New York Supreme Court, alleging breach of contract and other claims arising from our termination of the affiliation agreement governing carriage of certain Voom HD channels on the DISH branded pay-TV service. At that time, Voom also sought a preliminary injunction to prevent us from terminating the agreement. The Court denied Voom’s request, finding, among other things, that Voom had not demonstrated that it was likely to prevail on the merits. In April 2010, we and Voom each filed motions for summary judgment. Voom later filed two motions seeking discovery sanctions. On November 9, 2010, the Court issued a decision denying both motions for summary judgment, but granting Voom’s motions for discovery sanctions. The Court’s decision provides for an adverse inference jury instruction at trial and precludes our damages expert from testifying at trial. We appealed the grant of Voom’s motion for discovery sanctions to the New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, First Department. On February 15, 2011, the appellate court granted our motion to stay the trial pending our appeal. On January 31, 2012, the appellate court affirmed the order imposing discovery sanctions and precluding our damages expert from testifying at trial. We sought leave to appeal to New York’s highest state court, the Court of Appeals, but that motion was denied on April 26, 2012. A trial date has not been set. Voom is claiming over \$2.5 billion in damages.

*Covenants and Restrictions Related to our Senior Notes*

The indentures related to our outstanding senior notes contain restrictive covenants that, among other things, impose limitations on our ability to: (i) incur additional indebtedness; (ii) enter into sale and leaseback transactions; (iii) pay dividends or make distributions on our capital stock or repurchase our capital stock; (iv) make certain investments; (v) create liens; (vi) enter into certain transactions with affiliates; (vii) merge or consolidate with another company; and (viii) transfer or sell assets. Should we fail to comply with these covenants, all or a portion of the debt under the senior notes could become immediately payable. The senior notes also provide that the debt may be required to be prepaid if certain change-in-control events occur. As of the date of filing, we were in compliance with the covenants.

**Item 2. MANAGEMENT’S NARRATIVE ANALYSIS OF RESULTS OF OPERATIONS — Continued**

**EXPLANATION OF KEY METRICS AND OTHER ITEMS**

**Subscriber-related revenue .** “Subscriber-related revenue” consists principally of revenue from basic, premium movie, local, HD programming, pay-per-view, Latino and international subscription television services, equipment rental fees and other hardware related fees, including fees for DVRs, equipment upgrade fees and additional outlet fees from subscribers with receivers with multiple tuners, advertising services, fees earned from our in-home service operations and other subscriber revenue. Certain of the amounts included in “Subscriber-related revenue” are not recurring on a monthly basis.

**Equipment sales and other revenue .** “Equipment sales and other revenue” principally includes the non-subsidized sales of DBS accessories to retailers and other third-party distributors of our equipment domestically and to DISH subscribers.

**Equipment sales, services and other revenue — EchoStar.** “Equipment sales, services and other revenue — EchoStar” includes revenue related to equipment sales, services, and other agreements with EchoStar.

**Subscriber-related expenses .** “Subscriber-related expenses” principally include programming expenses, which represent a substantial majority of these expenses. “Subscriber-related expenses” also include costs incurred in connection with our in-home service and call center operations, billing costs, refurbishment and repair costs related to receiver systems, subscriber retention and other variable subscriber expenses.

**Satellite and transmission expenses — EchoStar .** “Satellite and transmission expenses — EchoStar” includes the cost of leasing satellite and transponder capacity from EchoStar and the cost of digital broadcast operations provided to us by EchoStar, including satellite uplinking/downlinking, signal processing, conditional access management, telemetry, tracking and control, and other professional services.

**Satellite and transmission expenses — other .** “Satellite and transmission expenses — other” includes executory costs associated with capital leases and costs associated with transponder leases and other related services.

**Cost of sales - equipment, services and other.** “Cost of sales - equipment, services and other” principally includes the cost of non-subsidized sales of DBS accessories to retailers and other third-party distributors of our equipment domestically and to DISH subscribers. In addition, this category includes costs related to equipment sales, services, and other agreements with EchoStar.

**Subscriber acquisition costs .** In addition to leasing receivers, we generally subsidize installation and all or a portion of the cost of our receiver systems to attract new DISH subscribers. Our “Subscriber acquisition costs” include the cost of subsidized sales of receiver systems to retailers and other third-party distributors of our equipment, the cost of subsidized sales of receiver systems directly by us to subscribers, including net costs related to our promotional incentives, costs related to our direct sales efforts and costs related to installation and acquisition advertising. We exclude the value of equipment capitalized under our lease program for new subscribers from “Subscriber acquisition costs.”

**SAC.** Subscriber acquisition cost measures are commonly used by those evaluating companies in the pay-TV industry. We are not aware of any uniform standards for calculating the “average subscriber acquisition costs per new subscriber activation,” or SAC, and we believe presentations of SAC may not be calculated consistently by different companies in the same or similar businesses. Our SAC is calculated as “Subscriber acquisition costs,” plus the value of equipment capitalized under our lease program for new subscribers, divided by gross new subscriber activations. We include all the costs of acquiring subscribers (e.g., subsidized and capitalized equipment) as we believe it is a more comprehensive measure of how much we are spending to acquire subscribers. We also include all new DISH subscribers in our calculation, including DISH subscribers added with little or no subscriber acquisition costs.

**Item 2. MANAGEMENT’S NARRATIVE ANALYSIS OF RESULTS OF OPERATIONS — Continued**

**General and administrative expenses .** “General and administrative expenses” consists primarily of employee-related costs associated with administrative services such as legal, information systems, accounting and finance, including non-cash, stock-based compensation expense. It also includes outside professional fees (e.g., legal, information systems and accounting services) and other items associated with facilities and administration.

**Litigation expense.** “Litigation expense” primarily consists of legal settlements, judgments or accruals associated with certain significant litigation.

**Interest expense, net of amounts capitalized.** “Interest expense, net of amounts capitalized” primarily includes interest expense, prepayment premiums and amortization of debt issuance costs associated with our senior debt (net of capitalized interest), and interest expense associated with our capital lease obligations.

**Other, net.** The main components of “Other, net” are gains and losses realized on the sale of investments, impairment of marketable and non-marketable investment securities, unrealized gains and losses from changes in fair value of marketable and non-marketable investments accounted for at fair value, and equity in earnings and losses of our affiliates.

**Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (“EBITDA”).** EBITDA is defined as “Net income (loss)” plus “Interest expense, net of amounts capitalized” net of “Interest income,” “Taxes” and “Depreciation and amortization.” This “non-GAAP measure” is reconciled to “Net income (loss)” in our discussion of “Results of Operations” below.

**DISH subscribers .** We include customers obtained through direct sales, third-party retailers and other third-party distribution relationships in our DISH subscriber count. We also provide DISH service to hotels, motels and other commercial accounts. For certain of these commercial accounts, we divide our total revenue for these commercial accounts by an amount approximately equal to the retail price of our DISH America programming package, and include the resulting number, which is substantially smaller than the actual number of commercial units served, in our DISH subscriber count. Effective during the first quarter 2011, we made two changes to this calculation methodology compared to prior periods. Beginning February 1, 2011, the retail price of our DISH America programming package was used in the calculation rather than America’s Top 120 programming package, which had been used in prior periods. We also determined that two of our commercial business lines, which had previously been included in the described calculation, could be more accurately reflected through actual subscriber counts. The net impact of these two changes was to increase our subscriber count by approximately 6,000 subscribers in the first quarter 2011. Prior period DISH subscriber counts have not been adjusted for this revised commercial accounts calculation as the impacts were immaterial.

**Average monthly revenue per subscriber .** We are not aware of any uniform standards for calculating ARPU and believe presentations of ARPU may not be calculated consistently by other companies in the same or similar businesses. We calculate average monthly revenue per subscriber, or ARPU, by dividing average monthly “Subscriber-related revenue” for the period (total “Subscriber-related revenue” during the period divided by the number of months in the period) by our average number of DISH subscribers for the period. The average number of DISH subscribers is calculated for the period by adding the average number of DISH subscribers for each month and dividing by the number of months in the period. The average number of DISH subscribers for each month is calculated by adding the beginning and ending DISH subscribers for the month and dividing by two.

**Average monthly subscriber churn rate .** We are not aware of any uniform standards for calculating subscriber churn rate and believe presentations of subscriber churn rates may not be calculated consistently by different companies in the same or similar businesses. We calculate subscriber churn rate for any period by dividing the number of DISH subscribers who terminated service during the period by the average number of DISH subscribers for the same period, and further dividing by the number of months in the period. When calculating subscriber churn, the same methodology for calculating average number of DISH subscribers is used as when calculating ARPU.

## Item 2. MANAGEMENT'S NARRATIVE ANALYSIS OF RESULTS OF OPERATIONS — Continued

## RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Three Months Ended March 31, 2012 Compared to the Three Months Ended March 31, 2011.

Statements of Operations Data	For the Three Months Ended March 31,		Variance	
	2012	2011	Amount	%
	(In thousands)			
<b>Revenue:</b>				
Subscriber-related revenue	\$ 3,218,946	\$ 3,195,666	\$ 23,280	0.7
Equipment sales and other revenue	21,613	15,893	5,720	36.0
Equipment sales, services and other revenue - EchoStar	6,667	9,031	(2,364)	(26.2)
Total revenue	3,247,226	3,220,590	26,636	0.8
<b>Costs and Expenses:</b>				
Subscriber-related expenses	1,764,435	1,692,308	72,127	4.3
<b>% of Subscriber-related revenue</b>	<b>54.8%</b>	<b>53.0%</b>		
Satellite and transmission expenses - EchoStar	109,121	108,886	235	0.2
<b>% of Subscriber-related revenue</b>	<b>3.4%</b>	<b>3.4%</b>		
Satellite and transmission expenses - Other	10,574	10,078	496	4.9
<b>% of Subscriber-related revenue</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>0.3%</b>		
Cost of sales - equipment, services and other	22,948	22,072	876	4.0
Subscriber acquisition costs	397,719	354,606	43,113	12.2
General and administrative expenses	171,164	159,800	11,364	7.1
<b>% of Total revenue</b>	<b>5.3%</b>	<b>5.0%</b>		
Litigation expense	—	(340,677)	340,677	(100.0)
Depreciation and amortization	197,295	228,126	(30,831)	(13.5)
Total costs and expenses	2,673,256	2,235,199	438,057	19.6
Operating income (loss)	573,970	985,391	(411,421)	(41.8)
<b>Other Income (Expense):</b>				
Interest income	1,692	3,640	(1,948)	(53.5)
Interest expense, net of amounts capitalized	(134,286)	(119,973)	(14,313)	(11.9)
Other, net	2,705	12,568	(9,863)	(78.5)
Total other income (expense)	(129,889)	(103,765)	(26,124)	(25.2)
Income (loss) before income taxes	444,081	881,626	(437,545)	(49.6)
Income tax (provision) benefit, net	(166,591)	(332,751)	166,160	49.9
<b>Effective tax rate</b>	<b>37.5%</b>	<b>37.7%</b>		
Net income (loss)	\$ 277,490	\$ 548,875	\$ (271,385)	(49.4)
<b>Other Data:</b>				
DISH Network subscribers, as of period end (in millions)	14.071	14.191	(0.120)	(0.8)
DISH Network subscriber additions, gross (in millions)	0.673	0.681	(0.008)	(1.2)
DISH Network subscriber additions, net (in millions)	0.104	0.058	0.046	79.3
Average monthly subscriber churn rate	1.35%	1.47%	(0.12)%	(8.2)
Average monthly revenue per subscriber ("ARPU")	\$ 76.71	\$ 75.39	\$ 1.32	1.8
Average subscriber acquisition cost per subscriber ("SAC")	\$ 751	\$ 725	\$ 26	3.6
EBITDA	\$ 773,970	\$ 1,226,085	\$ (452,115)	(36.9)

**Item 2. MANAGEMENT’S NARRATIVE ANALYSIS OF RESULTS OF OPERATIONS — Continued**

**DISH subscribers .** DISH added approximately 104,000 net subscribers during the three months ended March 31, 2012, compared to approximately 58,000 net subscriber additions during the same period in 2011. The increase versus the same period in 2011 primarily resulted from a decrease in our churn rate. Our average monthly subscriber churn rate for the three months ended March 31, 2012 was 1.35% compared to 1.47% for the same period in 2011. During the three months ended March 31, 2012, DISH added approximately 673,000 gross new subscribers compared to approximately 681,000 gross new subscribers during the same period in 2011, a decrease of 1.2%.

Our churn rate for the three months ended March 31, 2012 was positively impacted versus the same period in 2011 because we did not have a programming package price increase in the first quarter 2012, but did during the same period in 2011. While churn improved compared to the same period in 2011, increased competitive pressures could increase churn in the future. Furthermore, our churn has historically been lower in the first quarter. In addition to these factors, our churn rate is impacted by the credit quality of previously acquired subscribers, our ability to consistently provide outstanding customer service, and our ability to control piracy.

Our gross new subscriber activations continue to be negatively impacted by increased competitive pressures, including aggressive marketing and discounted promotional offers. In addition, telecommunications companies continue to grow their customer bases. Our gross new subscriber activations continue to be adversely affected by sustained economic weakness and uncertainty, including, among other things, the weak housing market and lower discretionary spending.

We have not always met our own standards for performing high-quality installations, effectively resolving subscriber issues when they arise, answering subscriber calls in an acceptable timeframe, effectively communicating with our subscriber base, reducing calls driven by the complexity of our business, improving the reliability of certain systems and subscriber equipment, and aligning the interests of certain third party retailers and installers to provide high-quality service. Most of these factors have affected both gross new subscriber activations as well as existing subscriber churn. Our future gross new subscriber activations and subscriber churn may be negatively impacted by these factors, which could in turn adversely affect our revenue growth.

**Subscriber-related revenue.** DISH “Subscriber-related revenue” totaled \$3.219 billion for the three months ended March 31, 2012, an increase of \$23 million or 0.7% compared to the same period in 2011. This change was primarily related to the increase in “ARPU” discussed below.

**ARPU.** “Average monthly revenue per subscriber” was \$76.71 during the three months ended March 31, 2012 versus \$75.39 during the same period in 2011. The \$1.32 or 1.8% increase in ARPU was primarily attributable to our price increase in February 2011 and higher hardware related revenue, partially offset by decreases in premium and pay per view revenue.

**Subscriber-related expenses.** “Subscriber-related expenses” totaled \$1.764 billion during the three months ended March 31, 2012, an increase of \$72 million or 4.3% compared to the same period in 2011. The increase in “Subscriber-related expenses” was primarily attributable to higher programming costs, partially offset by a decrease in customer retention expense. The increase in programming costs was driven by rate increases in certain of our programming contracts, including the renewal of certain contracts at higher rates. “Subscriber-related expenses” represented 54.8% and 53.0% of “Subscriber-related revenue” during the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The change in this expense to revenue ratio primarily resulted from higher programming costs, discussed above.

In the normal course of business, we enter into contracts to purchase programming content in which our payment obligations are fully contingent on the number of subscribers to whom we provide the respective content. Our programming expenses will continue to increase to the extent we are successful in growing our subscriber base. In addition, our “Subscriber-related expenses” may face further upward pressure from price increases and the renewal of long-term programming contracts on less favorable pricing terms.

**Item 2. MANAGEMENT’S NARRATIVE ANALYSIS OF RESULTS OF OPERATIONS — Continued**

**Subscriber acquisition costs.** “Subscriber acquisition costs” totaled \$398 million for the three months ended March 31, 2012, an increase of \$43 million or 12.2% compared to the same period in 2011. This increase was primarily attributable to an increase in SAC described below.

**SAC.** SAC was \$751 during the three months ended March 31, 2012 compared to \$725 during the same period in 2011, an increase of \$26 or 3.6%. This increase was primarily attributable to higher acquisition advertising expenses.

During the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, the amount of equipment capitalized under our lease program for new subscribers totaled \$107 million and \$139 million, respectively. This decrease in capital expenditures under our lease program for new subscribers resulted primarily from an increase in the percentage of redeployed receivers that were installed. To remain competitive we upgrade or replace subscriber equipment periodically as technology changes, and the costs associated with these upgrades may be substantial. To the extent technological changes render a portion of our existing equipment obsolete, we would be unable to redeploy all returned equipment and consequently would realize less benefit from the SAC reduction associated with redeployment of that returned lease equipment.

Our SAC calculation does not reflect any benefit from payments we received in connection with equipment not returned to us from disconnecting lease subscribers and returned equipment that is made available for sale or used in our existing customer lease program rather than being redeployed through our new customer lease program. During the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011, these amounts totaled \$30 million and \$21 million, respectively.

We have been deploying receivers that utilize 8PSK modulation technology and receivers that utilize MPEG-4 compression technology for several years. These technologies, when fully deployed, will allow more programming channels to be carried over our existing satellites. Many of our customers today, however, do not have receivers that use MPEG-4 compression and a smaller but still significant percentage do not have receivers that use 8PSK modulation. We may choose to invest significant capital to accelerate the conversion of customers to MPEG-4 and/or 8PSK to realize the bandwidth benefits sooner. In addition, given that all of our HD content is broadcast in MPEG-4, any growth in HD penetration will naturally accelerate our transition to these newer technologies and may increase our subscriber acquisition and retention costs. All new receivers that we purchase from EchoStar have MPEG-4 technology. Although we continue to refurbish and redeploy MPEG-2 receivers, as a result of our HD initiatives and current promotions, we currently activate most new customers with higher priced MPEG-4 technology. This limits our ability to redeploy MPEG-2 receivers and, to the extent that our promotions are successful, will accelerate the transition to MPEG-4 technology, resulting in an adverse effect on our SAC.

Our “Subscriber acquisition costs” and “SAC” may materially increase in the future to the extent that we transition to newer technologies, introduce more aggressive promotions, or provide greater equipment subsidies.

**Litigation expense.** “Litigation expense” totaled zero during the three months ended March 31, 2012. During the three months ended March 31, 2011, we reversed \$341 million related to the April 29, 2011 settlement agreement with TiVo, which was previously recorded as an expense. See Note 8 for further discussion.

**Depreciation and amortization.** “Depreciation and amortization” expense totaled \$197 million during the three months ended March 31, 2012, a \$31 million or 13.5% decrease compared to the same period in 2011. This change in “Depreciation and amortization” expense was primarily due to a decrease in depreciation on equipment leased to subscribers principally related to less equipment capitalization during the preceding 12 months and less equipment write-offs from disconnecting subscribers.

**Interest expense, net of amounts capitalized.** “Interest expense, net of amounts capitalized” totaled \$134 million during the three months ended March 31, 2012, an increase of \$14 million or 11.9% compared to the same period in 2011. This change primarily resulted from an increase in interest expense related to the issuance of our 6 3/4% Senior Notes due 2021 during the second quarter 2011, partially offset by a decrease in interest expense as a result of the repurchases and redemptions in 2011 of our 6 3/8% Senior Notes due 2011.

**Item 2. MANAGEMENT’S NARRATIVE ANALYSIS OF RESULTS OF OPERATIONS — Continued**

**Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization** . EBITDA was \$774 million during the three months ended March 31, 2012, a decrease of \$452 million or 36.9% compared to the same period in 2011. EBITDA for the three months ended March 31, 2011 was favorably impacted by the reversal of \$341 million of “Litigation expense” related to the April 29, 2011 settlement agreement with TiVo, which had been previously recorded as an expense prior to the first quarter 2011. The following table reconciles EBITDA to the accompanying financial statements.

	For the Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2012	2011
	(In thousands)	
EBITDA	\$ 773,970	\$ 1,226,085
Interest expense, net	(132,594)	(116,333)
Income tax (provision) benefit, net	(166,591)	(332,751)
Depreciation and amortization	(197,295)	(228,126)
Net income (loss)	<u>\$ 277,490</u>	<u>\$ 548,875</u>

EBITDA is not a measure determined in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (“GAAP”) and should not be considered a substitute for operating income, net income or any other measure determined in accordance with GAAP. EBITDA is used as a measurement of operating efficiency and overall financial performance and we believe it to be a helpful measure for those evaluating companies in the pay-TV industry. Conceptually, EBITDA measures the amount of income generated each period that could be used to service debt, pay taxes and fund capital expenditures. EBITDA should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for measures of performance prepared in accordance with GAAP.

**Income tax (provision) benefit, net.** Our income tax provision was \$167 million during the three months ended March 31, 2012, a decrease of \$166 million compared to the same period in 2011. The decrease in the provision was primarily related to the decrease in “Income (loss) before income taxes.”

**Net income (loss).** “Net income (loss)” was \$277 million during the three months ended March 31, 2012, an decrease of \$271 million compared to \$549 million for the same period in 2011. The decrease was primarily attributable to the changes in revenue and expenses discussed above.

**Item 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, we evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based upon that evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of the end of the period covered by this report.

There has been no change in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) during our most recent fiscal quarter that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

## PART II — OTHER INFORMATION

### Item 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

We are involved in a number of legal proceedings (including those described below) concerning matters arising in connection with the conduct of our business activities. Many of these proceedings are at preliminary stages, and many of these proceedings seek an indeterminate amount of damages. We regularly evaluate the status of the legal proceedings in which we are involved to assess whether a loss is probable or there is a reasonable possibility that a loss or an additional loss may have been incurred and to determine if accruals are appropriate. If accruals are not appropriate, we further evaluate each legal proceeding to assess whether an estimate of the possible loss or range of possible loss can be made.

For certain cases described on the following pages, management is unable to provide a meaningful estimate of the possible loss or range of possible loss because, among other reasons, (i) the proceedings are in various stages; (ii) damages have not been sought; (iii) damages are unsupported and/or exaggerated; (iv) there is uncertainty as to the outcome of pending appeals or motions; (v) there are significant factual issues to be resolved; and/or (vi) there are novel legal issues or unsettled legal theories to be presented or a large number of parties (as with many patent-related cases). For these cases, however, management does not believe, based on currently available information, that the outcomes of these proceedings will have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, though the outcomes could be material to our operating results for any particular period, depending, in part, upon the operating results for such period.

#### *Channel Bundling Class Action*

During 2007, a purported class of cable and satellite subscribers filed an antitrust action against our wholly-owned subsidiary, DISH Network L.L.C., in the United States District Court for the Central District of California. The suit also names as defendants DirecTV, Comcast, Cablevision, Cox, Charter, Time Warner, Inc., Time Warner Cable, NBC Universal, Viacom, Fox Entertainment Group and Walt Disney Company. The suit alleges, among other things, that the defendants engaged in a conspiracy to provide customers with access only to bundled channel offerings as opposed to giving customers the ability to purchase channels on an “a la carte” basis. On October 16, 2009, the District Court entered an order granting the defendants’ motion to dismiss with prejudice. On June 3, 2011, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit affirmed the District Court’s order. The plaintiff class sought rehearing en banc. On October 31, 2011, the Ninth Circuit issued an order vacating the previous June 3, 2011 order, directing that a 3-judge panel be reconstituted, and denying the plaintiff class’ motion for rehearing. On March 30, 2012, the reconstituted panel of the Ninth Circuit again affirmed the District Court’s order. On April 10, 2012, the plaintiff class again filed a petition for rehearing en banc, which was denied on May 4, 2012. We intend to vigorously defend this case. We cannot predict with any degree of certainty the outcome of the suit or determine the extent of any potential liability or damages.

#### *Cyberfone Systems, LLC (f/k/a LVL Patent Group, LLC)*

On September 15, 2011, LVL Patent Group, LLC filed a complaint against our wholly-owned subsidiary, DISH Network L.L.C., as well as EchoStar, EchoStar Technologies L.L.C., a wholly-owned subsidiary of EchoStar, and DirecTV in the United States District Court for the District of Delaware alleging infringement of United States Patent No. 6,044,382, which is entitled “Data Transaction Assembly Server.” On November 18, 2011, Cyberfone Systems, LLC (f/k/a LVL Patent Group, LLC) filed an amended complaint making the same claim. DirecTV was dismissed from the case on January 4, 2012.

We intend to vigorously defend this case. In the event that a court ultimately determines that we infringe the asserted patent, we may be subject to substantial damages, which may include treble damages, and/or an injunction that could require us to materially modify certain features that we currently offer to consumers. We cannot predict with any degree of certainty the outcome of the suit or determine the extent of any potential liability or damages.

**PART II — OTHER INFORMATION — Continued**

**ESPN**

During 2008, our wholly-owned subsidiary, DISH Network L.L.C., filed a lawsuit against ESPN, Inc., ESPN Classic, Inc., ABC Cable Networks Group, Soapnet L.L.C. and International Family Entertainment (collectively, “ESPN”) for breach of contract in New York State Supreme Court. Our complaint alleges that ESPN failed to provide us with certain high-definition feeds of the Disney Channel, ESPN News, Toon and ABC Family. In October 2011, the jury returned a verdict in favor of the defendants. We intend to appeal.

ESPN had asserted a counterclaim alleging that we owed approximately \$35 million under the applicable affiliation agreements. On April 15, 2009, the New York State Supreme Court granted, in part, ESPN’s motion for summary judgment on the counterclaim, finding that we are liable for some of the amount alleged to be owing but that the actual amount owing is disputed. On December 29, 2010, the New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, First Department affirmed the partial grant of ESPN’s motion on the counterclaim. After the partial grant of ESPN’s motion for summary judgment, ESPN sought an additional \$30 million under the applicable affiliation agreements. On March 15, 2010, the New York State Supreme Court affirmed the prior grant of ESPN’s motion and ruled that we owe the full amount of approximately \$66 million under the applicable affiliation agreement. As of December 31, 2010, we had \$42 million recorded as a “Litigation accrual” on our Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets.

On June 21, 2011, the First Department affirmed the New York Supreme Court’s ruling that we owe approximately \$66 million under the applicable affiliation agreements and, on October 18, 2011, denied our motion for leave to appeal that decision to New York’s highest court, the New York Court of Appeals. We sought leave to appeal directly to the New York Court of Appeals and, on January 10, 2012, the New York Court of Appeals dismissed our motion for leave on the ground that the ruling upon which we appealed does not fully resolve all claims in the action. As a result of the First Department’s June 2011 ruling, during 2011, we recorded \$24 million of “Litigation Expense” on our Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss). On February 6, 2012, ESPN filed a motion seeking \$5 million in attorneys’ fees as the prevailing party on both our claim and ESPN’s counterclaim, which we have opposed. As a result, during the three months ended March 31, 2012, we recorded \$5 million of “General and administrative expenses” and increased our “Litigation accrual” to a total of \$71 million as of March 31, 2012. This reflects our estimated exposure for ESPN’s counterclaim. We intend to vigorously prosecute and defend this case.

***Norman IP Holdings, Inc.***

On September 15, 2011, Norman IP Holdings, Inc. (“Norman”) filed a patent infringement complaint against Brother International Corporation and Lexmark International Corporation in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas alleging infringement of U.S. Patent No. 5,592,555 (the “’555 patent”) and U.S. Patent No. 5,502,689 (the “’689 patent”). On December 9, 2011, Norman filed a first amended complaint that added Ricoh Americas Corporation and dropped Brother International Corporation as defendants. On January 27, 2012, Norman filed a second amended complaint that added DISH Network as a defendant, in addition to adding Belkin International, Inc., BMW of North America LLC, Daimler North America Corporation, Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC, D-Link Systems, Inc., Ford Motor Company, Garmin International, Inc., Garmin USA, Inc., General Electric Company, General Motors Company, JVC Americas Corporation, Novatel Wireless, Inc., Novatel Wireless Solutions, Inc., Novatel Wireless Technology, Inc., TomTom, Inc., ViewSonic Corporation, Vizio, Inc., Volkswagen Group of America, Inc., Xerox Corporation, ZTE USA, Inc., and ZTE Solutions, Inc. The ‘555 patent relates to a wireless communications privacy method and system and the ‘689 patent relates to a clock generator capable of shut-down mode and clock generation method. Norman is an entity that seeks to license an acquired patent portfolio without itself practicing any of the claims recited therein.

We intend to vigorously defend this case. In the event that a court ultimately determines that we infringe any of the asserted patents, we may be subject to substantial damages, which may include treble damages, and/or an injunction that could require us to materially modify certain features that we currently offer to consumers. We cannot predict with any degree of certainty the outcome of the suit or determine the extent of any potential liability or damages.

**PART II — OTHER INFORMATION — Continued**

***NorthPoint Technology, Ltd.***

On July 2, 2009, NorthPoint Technology, Ltd. (“NorthPoint”) filed suit against DISH Network, EchoStar and DirecTV in the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas alleging infringement of United States Patent No. 6,208,636 (the “‘636 patent”). The ‘636 patent relates to the use of multiple low-noise block converter feedhorns, or LNBFs, which are antennas used for satellite reception. On April 21, 2011, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office issued an order granting reexamination of the ‘636 patent. On June 21, 2011, the District Court entered summary judgment in DISH Network’s favor, finding that all asserted claims of the ‘636 patent are invalid. NorthPoint has appealed.

We intend to vigorously defend this case. In the event that a court ultimately determines that we infringe the asserted patent, we may be subject to substantial damages, which may include treble damages, and/or an injunction that could require us to materially modify certain features that we currently offer to consumers. We cannot predict with any degree of certainty the outcome of the suit or determine the extent of any potential liability or damages.

***Olympic Developments AG, LLC***

On January 20, 2011, Olympic Developments AG, LLC (“Olympic”) filed suit against our wholly-owned subsidiary, DISH Network L.L.C., Atlantic Broadband, Inc., Bright House Networks, LLC, Cable One, Inc., Cequel Communications Holdings I, LLC, CSC Holdings, LLC, GCI Communication Corp., Insight Communications Company, Inc., Knology, Inc., Mediacom Communications Corporation and RCN Telecom Services, LLC in the United States District Court for the Central District of California alleging infringement of United States Patent Nos. 5,475,585 and 6,246,400. The patents relate to on-demand services. Olympic is an entity that seeks to license an acquired patent portfolio without itself practicing any of the claims recited therein. On June 13, 2011, the case was transferred to the Northern District of California. On November 4, 2011, the case was stayed pending reexamination by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

We intend to vigorously defend this case. In the event that a court ultimately determines that we infringe the asserted patents, we may be subject to substantial damages, which may include treble damages, and/or an injunction that could require us to materially modify certain features that we currently offer to consumers. We cannot predict with any degree of certainty the outcome of the suit or determine the extent of any potential liability or damages.

***Personalized Media Communications, Inc.***

During 2008, Personalized Media Communications, Inc. (“PMC”) filed suit against DISH Network, EchoStar and Motorola Inc. in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas alleging infringement of United States Patent Nos. 4,694,490, 5,109,414, 4,965,825, 5,233,654, 5,335,277, and 5,887,243, which relate to satellite signal processing. PMC is an entity that seeks to license an acquired patent portfolio without itself practicing any of the claims recited therein. Subsequently, Motorola Inc. settled with PMC, leaving EchoStar and DISH Network as defendants. Trial is currently set for August 2012.

We intend to vigorously defend this case. In the event that a court ultimately determines that we infringe any of the asserted patents, we may be subject to substantial damages, which may include treble damages, and/or an injunction that could require us to materially modify certain features that we currently offer to consumers. We cannot predict with any degree of certainty the outcome of the suit or determine the extent of any potential liability or damages.

***Preservation Technologies, LLC***

In December 2011, Preservation Technologies, LLC (“Preservation Technologies”) filed suit against DISH Network in the United States District Court for the Central District of California. In the Operative Fourth Amended Complaint, filed on March 28, 2012, Preservation Technologies alleges that our BLOCKBUSTER On Demand, DISH branded pay-TV and DISH Online services infringe U.S. Patent Nos. 5,813,014, 5,832,499, 6,092,080, 6,353,831, 6,574,638, 6,199,060, 5,832,495, 6,549,911, 6,212,527 and 6,477,537. The patents relate to

**PART II — OTHER INFORMATION — Continued**

digital libraries, the management of multimedia assets, and the cataloging of multimedia data. Preservation Technologies is an entity that seeks to license an acquired patent portfolio without itself practicing any of the claims recited therein.

We intend to vigorously defend this case. In the event that a court ultimately determines that we infringe the asserted patents, we may be subject to substantial damages, which may include treble damages, and/or an injunction that could require us to materially modify certain features that we currently offer to consumers. We cannot predict with any degree of certainty the outcome of the suit or determine the extent of any potential liability or damages.

***Ronald A. Katz Technology Licensing, L.P.***

During 2007, Ronald A. Katz Technology Licensing, L.P. (“Katz”) filed a patent infringement action against our wholly-owned subsidiary, DISH Network L.L.C., in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California. The suit alleges infringement of 19 patents owned by Katz. The patents relate to interactive voice response, or IVR, technology. The case has been transferred and consolidated for pretrial purposes in the United States District Court for the Central District of California by order of the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation. Only four patents remain in the case against us, one of which is subject to a reexamination request before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, which was filed on February 13, 2012.

We intend to vigorously defend this case. In the event that a court ultimately determines that we infringe any of the asserted patents, we may be subject to substantial damages, which may include treble damages and/or an injunction that could require us to materially modify certain features that we currently offer to consumers. We cannot predict with any degree of certainty the outcome of the suit or determine the extent of any potential liability or damages.

***Technology Development and Licensing L.L.C.***

On January 22, 2009, Technology Development and Licensing L.L.C. (“TDL”) filed suit against DISH Network and EchoStar in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois alleging infringement of United States Patent No. Re. 35,952, which relates to certain favorite channel features. TDL is an entity that seeks to license an acquired patent portfolio without itself practicing any of the claims recited therein. In July 2009, the Court granted DISH Network’s motion to stay the case pending two reexamination petitions before the Patent and Trademark Office.

We intend to vigorously defend this case. In the event that a court ultimately determines that we infringe the asserted patent, we may be subject to substantial damages, which may include treble damages, and/or an injunction that could require us to materially modify certain features that we currently offer to consumers. We cannot predict with any degree of certainty the outcome of the suit or determine the extent of any potential liability or damages.

***TQP Development, LLC***

On April 4, 2012, TQP Development, LLC (“TQP Development”) filed suit against our wholly-owned subsidiary, DISH Network L.L.C., in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas alleging infringement of United States Patent No. 5,412,730 titled “Encrypted Data Transmission System Employing Means for Randomly Altering the Encryption Keys.” TQP Development is an entity that seeks to license an acquired patent portfolio without itself practicing any of the claims recited therein.

We intend to vigorously defend this case. In the event that a court ultimately determines that we infringe the asserted patent, we may be subject to substantial damages, which may include treble damages, and/or an injunction that could require us to materially modify certain features that we currently offer to consumers. We cannot predict with any degree of certainty the outcome of the suit or determine the extent of any potential liability or damages.

**PART II — OTHER INFORMATION — Continued**

***Vigilos, LLC***

On February 23, 2011, Vigilos, LLC filed suit against EchoStar, two EchoStar subsidiaries, Sling Media, Inc. and EchoStar Technologies L.L.C., and Monsoon Multimedia, Inc. in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas alleging infringement of U.S. Patent No. 6,839,731, which is entitled “System and Method for Providing Data Communication in a Device Network.” Subsequently in 2011, Vigilos added DISH Network L.L.C., our wholly-owned subsidiary, as a defendant in its First Amended Complaint and the case was transferred to the Northern District of California. Later in 2011, Vigilos filed a Second Amended Complaint that added claims for infringement of a second patent, U.S. Patent No. 7,370,074, which is entitled “System and Method for Implementing Open-Protocol Remote Device Control.” Vigilos is an entity that seeks to license an acquired patent portfolio without itself practicing any of the claims recited therein.

We intend to vigorously defend this case. In the event that a court ultimately determines that we infringe the asserted patents, we may be subject to substantial damages, which may include treble damages, and/or an injunction that could require us to materially modify certain features that we currently offer to consumers. We cannot predict with any degree of certainty the outcome of the suit or determine the extent of any potential liability or damages.

***Voom HD Holdings***

In January 2008, Voom filed a lawsuit against our wholly-owned subsidiary, DISH Network L.L.C., in New York Supreme Court, alleging breach of contract and other claims arising from our termination of the affiliation agreement governing carriage of certain Voom HD channels on the DISH branded pay-TV service. At that time, Voom also sought a preliminary injunction to prevent us from terminating the agreement. The Court denied Voom’s request, finding, among other things, that Voom had not demonstrated that it was likely to prevail on the merits. In April 2010, we and Voom each filed motions for summary judgment. Voom later filed two motions seeking discovery sanctions. On November 9, 2010, the Court issued a decision denying both motions for summary judgment, but granting Voom’s motions for discovery sanctions. The Court’s decision provides for an adverse inference jury instruction at trial and precludes our damages expert from testifying at trial. We appealed the grant of Voom’s motion for discovery sanctions to the New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, First Department. On February 15, 2011, the appellate court granted our motion to stay the trial pending our appeal. On January 31, 2012, the appellate court affirmed the order imposing discovery sanctions and precluding our damages expert from testifying at trial. We sought leave to appeal to New York’s highest state court, the Court of Appeals, but that motion was denied on April 26, 2012. A trial date has not been set. Voom is claiming over \$2.5 billion in damages. We intend to vigorously defend this case. We cannot predict with any degree of certainty the outcome of the suit or determine the extent of any potential liability or damages.

***Other***

In addition to the above actions, we are subject to various other legal proceedings and claims which arise in the ordinary course of business, including, among other things, disputes with programmers regarding fees. In our opinion, the amount of ultimate liability with respect to any of these actions is unlikely to materially affect our financial position, results of operations or liquidity, though the outcomes could be material to our operating results for any particular period, depending, in part, upon the operating results for such period.

**PART II — OTHER INFORMATION — Continued****Item 1A. RISK FACTORS**

Item 1A, “Risk Factors,” of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, includes a detailed discussion of our risk factors. The information presented below updates, and should be read in conjunction with, the risk factors and information disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011.

*Our parent, DISH Network, made a substantial investment to acquire certain wireless spectrum licenses and other assets from DBSD North America and TerreStar. DISH Network will be required to make significant additional investments or partner with others to commercialize these assets.*

On March 2, 2012, the FCC approved the transfer of 40 MHz of 2 GHz wireless spectrum licenses held by DBSD North America, Inc. (“DBSD North America”) and TerreStar Networks, Inc. (“TerreStar”) to DISH Network. On March 9, 2012, DISH Network closed the acquisitions of 100% of the equity of reorganized DBSD North America (the “DBSD Transaction”) and substantially all of the assets of TerreStar (the “TerreStar Transaction”), pursuant to which DISH Network acquired, among other things, certain satellite assets and wireless spectrum licenses held by DBSD North America and TerreStar. In addition, during the fourth quarter 2011, DISH Network and Sprint Nextel Corporation (“Sprint”) entered into a mutual release and settlement agreement (the “Sprint Settlement Agreement”) pursuant to which all disputed issues relating to the DBSD Transaction and the TerreStar Transaction were resolved between DISH Network and Sprint, including, but not limited to, issues relating to costs allegedly incurred by Sprint to relocate users from the spectrum then licensed to DBSD North America and TerreStar. Pursuant to the Sprint Settlement Agreement, DISH Network made a net payment of approximately \$114 million to Sprint. The total consideration to acquire these assets was approximately \$2.860 billion. This amount includes \$1.364 billion for the DBSD Transaction, \$1.382 billion for the TerreStar Transaction, and the net payment of \$114 million to Sprint pursuant to the Sprint Settlement Agreement.

DISH Network’s consolidated FCC applications for approval of the license transfers from DBSD North America and TerreStar were accompanied by requests for waiver of the FCC’s Mobile-Satellite Service (“MSS”) “integrated service” and spare satellite requirements and various technical provisions. The FCC denied DISH Network’s requests for waiver of the integrated service and spare satellite requirements. The FCC has not yet acted on the request for waiver of various technical provisions, and DISH Network cannot predict the outcome or timing of any action by the FCC with respect to that waiver request. Waiver of the integrated service requirement would have allowed DISH Network to offer single-mode terrestrial terminals to customers who do not desire satellite functionality. On March 21, 2012, the FCC released a notice of proposed rule making (“NPRM”) that could result in the elimination of the integrated service and other requirements that attach to the 2 GHz licenses. Among other things, the FCC has proposed to modify DISH Network’s licenses to allow DISH Network to offer single-mode terrestrial terminals to customers who do not desire satellite functionality. The NPRM was published in the Federal Register on April 17, 2012. Initial comments on the NPRM are due on or before May 17, 2012, and reply comments are due on or before June 1, 2012. While the FCC has indicated its intent to complete the NPRM during 2012, DISH Network cannot predict the outcome or timing of the NPRM, including, without limitation, any associated build-out requirements with which DISH Network may need to comply to avail itself of any changes to the rules.

As a result of the completion of the DBSD Transaction and the TerreStar Transaction, DISH Network will likely be required to make significant additional investments or partner with others to, among other things, finance the commercialization and build-out requirements of these licenses. We have made cash distributions to DISH Network to finance these acquisitions and may make additional cash distributions to, among other things, finance the commercialization of these licenses and DISH Network’s integration efforts including compliance with regulations applicable to the acquired licenses. Depending on the nature and scope of such commercialization and build-out, any such investment or partnership could vary significantly, which may affect our future financial condition or results of operations. There can be no assurance that DISH Network will be able to develop and implement a business model that will realize a return on these spectrum investments or that DISH Network will be able to profitably deploy the assets represented by these spectrum investments.

**PART II — OTHER INFORMATION — Continued**

**Item 6. EXHIBITS**

*(a) Exhibits.*

- 10.1\* Receiver Agreement dated January 1, 2012 between Echosphere L.L.C. and EchoStar Technologies L.L.C. (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.1 to the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of DISH Network Corporation for the quarter ended March 31, 2012, Commission File No. 0-26176) \*\*
- 10.2\* Broadcast Agreement dated January 1, 2012 between EchoStar Broadcasting Corporation and DISH Network L.L.C. (incorporated by reference from Exhibit 10.2 to the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of DISH Network Corporation for the quarter ended March 31, 2012, Commission File No. 0-26176) \*\*
- 31.1  Section 302 Certification of Chief Executive Officer.
- 31.2  Section 302 Certification of Chief Financial Officer.
- 32.1  Section 906 Certification of Chief Executive Officer.
- 32.2  Section 906 Certification of Chief Financial Officer.
- 101\*\*\* The following materials from the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of DDBS for the quarter ended March 31, 2012, filed on May 8, 2012, formatted in eXtensible Business Reporting Language (“XBRL”): (i) Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets, (ii) Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Income (Loss), (iii) Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows and (iv) related notes to these financial statements tagged as blocks of text.

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Filed herewith.

\* Incorporated by reference.

\*\* Certain portions of the exhibit have been omitted and separately filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to a request for confidential treatment.

\*\*\* In accordance with Rule 402 of Regulation S-T, the information in this Exhibit 101 shall not be deemed “filed” for the purposes of section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”), or otherwise subject to the liability of that section, and shall not be incorporated by reference into any registration statement or other document filed under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by the specific reference in such filing.

**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 thereunto duly authorized.

DISH DBS CORPORATION

By: /s/ Joseph P. Clayton  
Joseph P. Clayton  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
(Duly Authorized Officer)

By: /s/ Robert E. Olson  
Robert E. Olson  
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer  
(Principal Financial Officer)

Date: May 8, 2012

**CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
Section 302 Certification

I, Joseph P. Clayton, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of DISH DBS Corporation;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: May 8, 2012

*/s/ Joseph P. Clayton*

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President and Chief Executive Officer

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**CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**  
Section 302 Certification

I, Robert E. Olson, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of DISH DBS Corporation;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: May 8, 2012

/s/ Robert E. Olson

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

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**CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
Section 906 Certification

Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350, the undersigned officer of DISH DBS Corporation (the "Company") hereby certifies that to the best of his knowledge the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the three months ended March 31, 2012 (the "Report") fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d), as applicable, of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and that the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Dated: May 8, 2012

Name: /s/ Joseph P. Clayton

Title: President and Chief Executive Officer

The foregoing certification is being furnished solely pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350 and is not being filed as part of the Report or as a separate disclosure document.

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 906, or other document authenticating, acknowledging, or otherwise adopting the signature that appears in typed form within the electronic version of this written statement required by Section 906, has been provided to the Company and will be retained by the Company and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.

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**CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**  
Section 906 Certification

Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350, the undersigned officer of DISH DBS Corporation (the "Company") hereby certifies that to the best of his knowledge the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the three months ended March 31, 2012 (the "Report") fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d), as applicable, of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and that the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Dated: May 8, 2012

Name: /s/ Robert E. Olson

Title: Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

The foregoing certification is being furnished solely pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1350 and is not being filed as part of the Report or as a separate disclosure document.

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 906, or other document authenticating, acknowledging, or otherwise adopting the signature that appears in typed form within the electronic version of this written statement required by Section 906, has been provided to the Company and will be retained by the Company and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.

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