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Vivendi: GVT and Echostar plan to create a Pay-TV joint venture in Brazil

Vivendi and EchoStar announced today that EchoStar Technologies L.L.C. and Vivendi subsidiary GVT have entered into negotiations to form a joint venture for Pay-TV services in Brazil.

GVT and EchoStar aim to position their future joint venture as a leader in the fast growing Brazilian Pay-TV market which would also benefit from the expected higher demand driven by two key global events to be held in the country: FIFA World Cup in 2014 and Olympic Games in 2016.

The joint venture would be headquartered in Brazil, managed by GVT, and would benefit from GVT's strong market position and state-of-the-art IP network combined with EchoStar's expertise in satellite and video technology and its Brazilian licenses. The objective is to offer a national service based on IPTV and a unique high power satellite to provide leading edge features, quality and reliability to consumers.

The deal is subject to execution of definitive agreements and all corporate and governmental approvals.

About Vivendi

Vivendi groups together leaders in content and media. Canal+ Group is the French leader in pay-TV, also operating in French-speaking Africa, Poland and Vietnam; its subsidiary StudioCanal is a leading European player in production, acquisition, distribution and international film sales. Universal Music Group is the world leader in music; it recently strengthened and diversified its position with the acquisition of EMI Recorded Music.

In telecommunications, Vivendi owns GVT, the leading alternative broadband operator in Brazil, and SFR, a French leader in telecoms.

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About GVT

GVT is the leading alternative telecommunications operator in Brazil. Active in all fixed-line telecommunications, in high-speed broadband services and in pay-television, it fully controls its optical fiber networks, the most modern in Brazil. GVT today operates in 146 Brazilian cities all over the country and most recently entered the residential market of Sao Paulo, the country's biggest city. Its pay-television services were launched in 2012, using a hybrid technology that combines the broadcast of satellite television channels, several of them in high definition, with interactive services provided through its terrestrial network; over 500,000 households have subscribed to the service to date. The company was founded in 2000 and is a wholly-owned Vivendi subsidiary since 2010. In 2012, GVT had revenues of €1.7 billion and an EBITDA of €740 million.

About EchoStar

EchoStar Corporation (NASDAQ: SATS) is a premier global provider of satellite operations and video delivery solutions. EchoStar's wholly-owned subsidiary, Hughes, is the world's leading provider of satellite broadband services, delivering network technologies and managed services for enterprise and government customers in more than 100 countries. Headquartered in Englewood, CO, with additional business units world-wide, EchoStar is a multiple Emmy award-winning company that has pioneered advancements in the set-top box and satellite industries for nearly 30 years, consistently delivering value for customers, partners and investors through innovation and outstanding quality. EchoStar's contribution to video technology continues to have a major influence on the way consumers view, receive and manage TV programming. EchoStar's consumer solutions include HughesNet®, North America's #1 high-speed satellite Internet service, Sling Media's Slingbox® products, and EchoStar's line of set-top box products for the free-to-air satellite and terrestrial markets.

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