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Hughes Completes Installation of Rural Satellite VoIP Network for Telefonica España

High-quality HN System solution meets tight deadline to achieve Universal Service Obligation—builds on successful 15-year relationship

Milton Keynes, UK, 16. June 2009—Hughes Network Systems, LLC (HUGHES), the global leader in broadband satellite networks and services, announced that its European operating entity, Hughes Europe, has completed the roll-out of a high-quality HN System solution for Telefonica España to deliver satellite-based VoIP (Voice over IP) rural telecommunications services. The implementation had to meet the very tight compliance deadlines imposed by the Spanish authorities, which Hughes successfully met.

“The rapid implementation of our Hughes satellite-based system network enables Telefonica to provide a high-quality and cost-effective communications service to meet its Universal Service Obligation under Spanish law,” said Christopher Britton, managing director of Hughes Europe. “Customers living in rural and remote areas can, for the first time, have access to all the benefits of broadband communications, such as Internet access, data transmission, Fax Group III and access to emergency services,” said Britton.

The rural network installation by Hughes is the latest project in a highly successful 15-year relationship working with the Spanish telecoms giant. For Telefonica España, the Hughes solution offered the ideal combination of cost-effective equipment performance, lower operational cost, and minimal implementation risk. And, because of the companies’ long-standing relationship, Telefonica had complete confidence in Hughes’ ability to deliver.

The new communications services are made possible through the installation of a second switching centre interconnecting the rural satellite VoIP network to the national telephony network. These services are available to new customers based in remote/rural areas and to existing customers migrating from the existing TRAC network (Telefonia Rural de Acceso Celular—Rural Telephony with Cellular Access) to the satellite-based VoIP network. The network comprises approximately 8,000 terminals, of which 80 percent are residential, 15 percent public telephony for city councils, and 5 percent for small/medium enterprises.

The satellite platform incorporates dedicated equipment supporting VoIP, including IP gateways and voice servers, and shares resources with other satellite-based networks providing broadband Internet access to rural areas of Spain and residential/SME access.

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Hughes Europe also sells, implements, and supports broadband satellite platforms to major telecoms carriers throughout Europe. “Our relationship with Telefonica reflects a broader total commitment to our customers, solving often complex technical problems in providing tailored solutions that are both proven and cost-effective,” Britton concluded.

About Hughes Europe

Hughes Europe is the European operating and sales organisation for Hughes Network Systems, LLC (HUGHES) with facilities in Germany, the UK and Italy. Utilising its satellite hub earth station and network operations centre in Griesheim, Germany, Hughes Europe provides HughesNet[®] broadband satellite and terrestrial solutions to large enterprises, government organizations and small businesses throughout the continent, both directly and through a growing family of value-added service providers. These networks support rapid, reliable transmission of data, voice, video and multimedia content. For more information, please visit www.hugheseurope.com.

About Hughes Network Systems

Hughes Network Systems, LLC (HUGHES) is the global leader in providing broadband satellite networks and services for large enterprises, governments, small businesses, and consumers. HughesNet[®] encompasses all broadband solutions and managed services from Hughes, bridging the best of satellite and terrestrial technologies. Its broadband satellite products are based on global standards approved by the TIA, ETSI and ITU standards organizations, including IPoS/DVB-S2, RSM-A and GMR-1. To date, Hughes has shipped more than 1.9 million systems to customers in over 100 countries.

Headquartered outside Washington, D.C., in Germantown, Maryland, USA, Hughes maintains sales and support offices worldwide. Hughes is a wholly owned subsidiary of Hughes Communications, Inc. (NASDAQ: HUGH). For additional information, please visit www.hughes.com.

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